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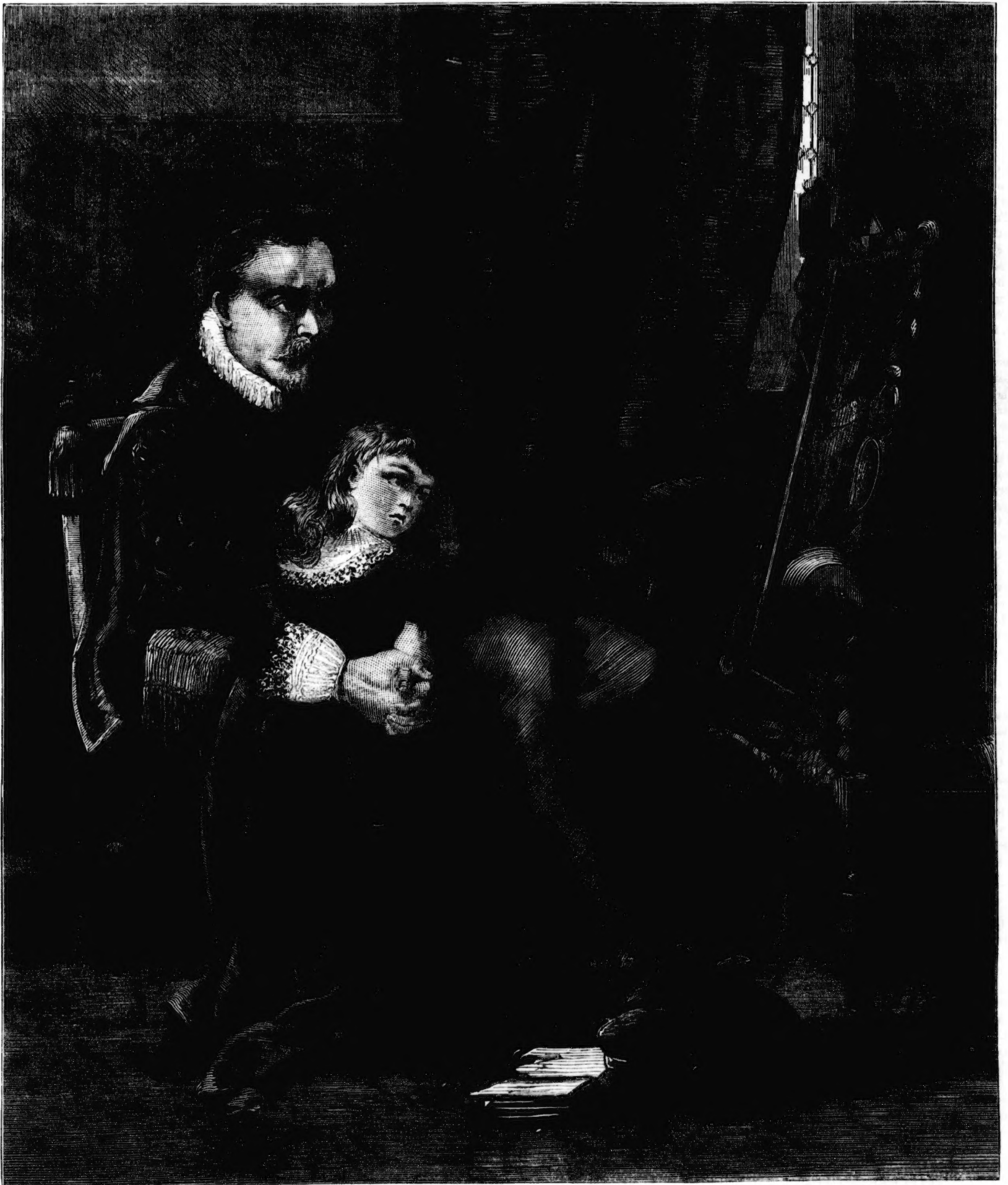
NEW SERIES.

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"NEVER AGAIN."—(FROM THE PICTURE BY F. C. BARNES IN WILLIS'S EXHIBITION.)

THE EMPEROR'S SPEECH.

THE speech with which the Emperor has just opened the Chambers is one of the most satisfactory that he has ever pronounced. It will cause no great sensation, it indicates no new policy, and probably the Bourse will remain entirely unaffected by it. But it is a fair exposition of the internal and external situation of the French empire. France has been called the "liver of Europe" by a writer who held that the political digestion of the whole European body would always go on quietly enough as long as France was in a sound condition, but not otherwise. France, if not fundamentally healthy, is at least not suffering from any acute disorder just now; and the Emperor has reason to congratulate himself, after a reign of fourteen years, upon seeing France "respected abroad, tranquil at home, having no political offenders in her prisons, and no exiles beyond her frontiers." That is a tolerably just account of France and the French empire in the year 1866. Nevertheless, the absence of political offenders in the French prisons does not prove, by any means, that there is no political discontent in the country. It only shows that the French Government does not allow discontent to manifest itself. If France had liberty of the press granted to it for forty-eight hours, we should soon hear of political offences being committed, and the prisons would be at least as full of "political offenders," in the shape of hostile newspaper editors, as they ever were during Louis Philippe's reign. How many "political offenders" does the Sultan of Turkey keep in prison, we wonder? Fewer, most certainly, than even the Czar of Russia, who, nevertheless, from his accession, in 1855, until the outbreak of the Polish insurrection in 1863, had scarcely one political offence to punish, and who, even now, has exiled very few persons from Russia proper.

It is easy for the Emperor Napoleon to boast that France has no political offenders in her prisons; but how many does Cayenne hold? It may also be quite true that there are now no Frenchmen living abroad who are actually under sentence of exile; but there are numbers of Frenchmen beyond the French frontiers who were exiled at the time of the coup-d'état; and who, if they were to return now, would be placed under the surveillance of the police, and, in the case of writers and politicians, would find their career closed. A free country in which no political offences are committed must be in a contented state. In a despotic country the absence of political offences may be looked upon as a sign of contentment; but it may, in fact, be the simple result of an absence of political life.

The best thing, perhaps, in the Imperial speech is the air of frankness which pervades it, and which, for the most part, seems quite sincere. The Emperor does not pretend that his Government, more than any other, is without defects; but he is of opinion that theories of government have been sufficiently discussed in France during the last eighty years, and that the best thing to do now is "to seek practical means of improving the moral and material state of the people." According to his Majesty, the Government in France is—as it frequently is and always ought to be in despotic States—ahead of the nation, and, above all, of the so-called Liberal party. "Unquiet minds, under pretence of quickening Liberal measures on the part of the Government, desired," he says, "to prevent it from advancing by depriving it of all force and all power of initiative." We conclude from this somewhat mysterious passage that the Emperor claims for himself, or for the Government which emanates from his will, the exclusive privilege of introducing reforms. Those who aim too much at limiting and controlling his power are, consequently, obstructive. Under the pretext of helping on the car of State and accelerating its movements, they are, in fact, endeavouring to overturn it.

One of the cleverest passages in the speech—and here we must say that we do not think his Majesty is very candid—is that in which the Emperor sets forth that the Constitutional forms of the French empire have a certain analogy with those of the United States; while they are "not defective because they differ from those of England." This passage will please the Democrats of France, who dislike England as much as they admire the United States, while—like every passage in the speech, for the matter of that—it will delight the Imperialists. But, before deciding whether institutions are defective or not, we must know with what object they have been founded. If the aim of the Emperor in introducing the Constitution of 1852 was to give liberty to France, then the Constitution of 1852 is a lamentable and grotesque failure; and it is a failure precisely because it differs so much from the English Constitution, which, by-the-way, has no particular date. The Legislative Body of France, putting aside the fact that it does not control the Ministers, is not a fair representative of the property and intelligence of the country; and it is so far from being independent that numbers of its members are notoriously nominees of the Crown, and indebted for their return to Crown patronage and support. As for the alleged resemblance of the French Constitution of 1852 to the Constitution of the United States, the only point of resemblance that can be noticed between the two is the recognition of the principle of universal suffrage by both. We are quite of the Emperor's opinion that "every people must have institutions suitable to its genius and its traditions;" and it seems to us that the institution of a Chamber composed of members eligible by universal suffrage, however well suited to the United States, is not at all suited to France. In America there is less real difference between the highest and the lowest class of inhabitants than in any other large

country. In France the difference between the great proprietors and the peasantry is immeasurable, and yet the vote of an indigent, ignorant, timid, superstitious peasant counts for as much as that of a Montalembert or a Guizot. Fifty of the greatest men in France may be outvoted by fifty-one agriculturists who are little better than serfs, and whom "M. le Maire" may drive like sheep to the poll.

The Emperor may be quite right in maintaining that France is prosperous in a material sense, but that is a very different thing from being free.

"NEVER AGAIN!"

We have already spoken of the technical qualities of Mr. Barnes's picture, bearing the above title, in terms of well-merited praise. The universal opinion of lovers of art, as well as critics, has selected it as one of the best pictures in Mr. Wallis's winter exhibition this season. Mr. Barnes has given in it another proof of the rapid strides he is making to the front rank of his profession.

The engraving of this exquisite picture which we present to our readers will convey some idea of the general merit of the painting, but cannot reproduce one of its great charms—its forcible and harmonious colouring. The picture tells its own story far better than any words can do, unless they be the two simple but touching ones given in its title—"Never again!" It is the very epitome of human love and grief. It speaks at once of the past and the future—of the happiness and calm of days gone by, of the long waste of years to come.

How different, not in intensity, perhaps, but in character, are the two forms of regret depicted on the faces of the father and child! There is a vague wonder in the boy's look—he has not yet learned the great mysteries of life, and love, and death. That is the lesson which gives to the father's eyes the weary look of anguish. Never again! She, the idol of his youth, the bride of his prime, the wife of his manhood, the mother of his boy—she is gone. Gone for ever from his side, leaving his life incomplete, with a broken heart and a desolate hearth that the sunshine of her love may brighten—never again! Those words are the epitaph of all that the world could give to make life worth living. No, not all; for by his side clings her child, who, thus bereft of her fond care, needs all the more love and tenderness from his father. They are drawn the closer together for their bereavement, this father and son; and, as they gaze upon the picture of the dead mother, perhaps their hearts are whispering, "We must cling to each other; we must be divided never again!"

Never again! Well, it is only a human limit—never again here; for ever in a brighter and better world. And yet the poor human heart cannot be entirely consoled even by such a thought as this: the earthly casket of the imperishable jewel—love—must crumble to dust, and while that is so there will ever be a bitterness, passing the power of words to describe, in the forlorn utterance "Never again!"

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The usual official report on the state of the empire, which has been communicated to the members of the Corps Législatif, alludes as follows to Italy:—

The execution of the September Convention is running its regular course. The Pope displays a disposition to profit by the guarantees offered, and the removal of the seat of Government to Florence has been effected. Public opinion in Italy is favourable to the Convention, and the sense of loyalty and honour of Italian statesmen is a pledge for its fulfilment. The French troops at Rome are gradually being withdrawn. We have offered the Pope our assistance to facilitate the recruitment and organisation of his military forces. As regards the Pontifical debt, we hope soon to arrive at an understanding with the Italian Cabinet which the Holy See may accept without sacrificing its dignity.

As regards the disagreements between Prince Couza and Turkey, the report states that France advises the Danubian Principalities to respect European treaties, which are based upon mutual rights and are a guarantee of friendly relations between the different European Powers.

The report recalls the importance which France attaches to maintaining the autonomy of the regency of Tunis. The French Cabinet trusts that the considerations stated in the despatches of last year will have been understood by the Bey and by Turkey, and that no attempt will be made to destroy the *status quo*.

On the subject of Mexico the report says:—

The French Government, on undertaking the expedition to Mexico, placed before it an aim to which it has rendered subordinate its conduct, and on which its decisions are still depending. We went to Mexico to obtain redress, not to proselytise for the cause of monarchy. Our soldiers are not in Mexico with the object of intervention. The Imperial Government has constantly repelled that doctrine as contrary to the fundamental principles of our rights. Mexico is at present ruled by a regular Government, anxious to fulfil the engagements it has made in respect both to the persons and properties of foreigners. When the necessary arrangements are concluded with the Emperor Maximilian, we shall be so far from repudiating the results of our principles as regards intervention that we shall, on the contrary, accept them as the guiding rule for all Powers, and it will then be easy to foretell the time when we shall be able to effect the return of the expeditionary army.

Documents relating to these affairs will shortly be laid before the Chamber.

A great topic of conversation in Paris is a report that negotiations are going on between Austria, France, and Italy for an amicable settlement of the Venetian question. The outline of the arrangement is as follows:—Venice to enjoy a government of her own—a kind of neutral ground between Austria and Italy; Pesceira, Verona, and Mantua to belong to Italy; Padua, Vicenza, and Legnano to Austria. Each of the two Powers to retain the right of fortifying and garrisoning these fortresses as they please, and stipulating a general disarmament.

SPAIN.

General Prim is stated to have entered Portugal on the afternoon of the 20th, and delivered the horses, arms, and equipments of his followers to the Alcalde of Cinisola. Disturbances have taken place at Reus and at Valencia. The province of Valencia has in consequence been proclaimed in a state of siege.

The Paris *Patrie* gives the following details respecting General Prim's arrival in Portugal:—

When the insurgent leader arrived at the frontier he had only with him 350 men out of the 800 whom he had led away from Aranjuez and Ocaña. The others had either made their submission or fallen into the power of the Royal troops. He had at first determined to enter Portugal in arms; but he learnt on the 19th from a sure source that the Cabinet of Lisbon had declared that, if the insurgents endeavoured to pass the frontier with their arms, it would authorise the Spanish troops to pursue them into the Portuguese territory. This intelligence modified his resolution, and induced him to deliver up to the Alcalde of Cinisola, in Spain, his arms and those of his troops, as well as the small supply of war munitions in his possession. He appeared in very low spirits, fatigued, and suffering in health. On arriving in Portugal he found a Portuguese colonel with his regiment. He was told that he could not reside in the country. He then asked for an authorisation to embark in the French steam-packet; on which he was informed that it had just put to sea, and was recommended to take the English boat for Southampton, with an intimation that thence he could go wherever he pleased. His troops will be assigned quarters in Portugal till further orders.

ITALY.

In the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, on the 22nd, Signor Scialoja made his financial statement, which confirmed the condition of the public treasury as stated by his predecessor, Signor Sella. After the payment of the half-yearly interest on the public debt on the 1st inst., the balance in the treasury was seventy million lire.

By means of the treasury bills in circulation the balance of the loan of 425 million lire and the proceeds of the sale of the state railway, the public expenses are provided for the ensuing year, including the payment of the half-yearly interest on the public debt falling due on the 1st of January, 1867. The Minister spoke against loans and other extraordinary expedients, saying that the revenue and expenditure must be balanced by taxes and reductions. The ordinary expenditure for 1866 was 928,000,000 lire. M. Scialoja denied all rumours of an intended reduction of the interest on the public debt. The minister Sella had announced reductions to the amount of 30,000,000; but Signor Scialoja said he would extend them to 55,000,000, 30,000,000 of which would be effected in the war and navy departments. He announced the suppression of the office of sub-prefects and other reforms. The deficit, amounting to 211 millions, will be covered partly by increasing the existing taxes and partly by creating new ones. He proposed a new classification of the direct taxes, and also that octrois should be applied to flour and oils. He would also maintain the reforms relative to the registration stamp as proposed by Signor Sella. The deficit would thus be reduced to 80,000,000. He limits the faculty of the communes for imposing additional centimes on the tax on landed property, and proposes that they should have the faculty to increase some other taxes, amongst which are those on doors and windows. The Minister also spoke of intended reforms in the system of public accounts, and ultimately demanded that the Chamber should prolong the provisional budget for two months more.

PRUSSIA.

In the Chamber of Deputies, on the 19th, Herr Virchow moved that the statement made by the Government in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the Session, relative to the union of Lauenburg with the Prussian Crown, should be declared invalid and contrary to the ordinances of the Constitution, so long as it has not received the sanction of the Chambers.

THE UNITED STATES.

The Mexican question is again the chief subject of interest in the news from America, which reaches to the 13th instant. The President had laid the correspondence between his Government and France before Congress. In one of his despatches M. Drouyn de Lhuys says:—"The French Government has been ready to adopt, without a minute's delay, the basis of an understanding with the Government of Washington. What is asked of the United States was to be assured that it is not their intention to impede the consolidation of the new order of things found in Mexico, and the best guarantee the French Government could desire would be the recognition of the Emperor Maximilian by the Federal Government." To which offer Mr. Seward replied, "After a review of all the facts, the President is gratified with the assurance you give of the Emperor's good disposition. I regret, however, to be obliged to say the condition which the Emperor presents is one which seems to be impracticable." Another portion of the official papers states that a letter from Captain Maury to Benjamin Wood had been intercepted, in which it was stated that the French Government favoured the Gwynn enterprise—to colonise lands on the borders of California. Mr. Seward inclosed the letter to Mr. Bigelow, and instructed him to inform the French Government that if the statements in the letter were true the Emperor Napoleon had departed from his policy of neutrality to give aid to the South. On the 14th of December Mr. Seward wrote urging Mr. Bigelow to get the positive declaration of the Emperor as to whether he intended to withdraw his troops. Upon these questions no further information is given.

The Senate had been furnished with the reports of Mr. Stanton and the Attorney-General in reference to the trial of Jefferson Davis. It seems the Government intend to try that individual, first of all, for treason; the other charges against him being inciting to the assassination of President Lincoln and murdering Federal soldiers. His trial is delayed because Mr. Chase refuses to hold a court, under present circumstances, in the judicial district of Virginia. The Attorney-General is of opinion that the trial should be postponed until the civil authority is completely restored in the districts where the offences were committed.

The army was being largely reduced, and all Federal troops were to be withdrawn from Alabama and Georgia. Twenty-two regiments had been mustered out in Texas. In the Senate the military committee had reported a bill fixing the future strength of the Federal army at seven regiments of artillery, ten of cavalry, and sixty of infantry. One new regiment of artillery and two of cavalry will consist of coloured troops. The aggregate strength of the army will be 60,000.

There were rumours of a reconstruction of the Ministry, and it was said to be likely that Mr. Stanton would take the place of Mr. Adams in London.

A public meeting had been held at the Cooper Institute, under the auspices of General Rosecranz and others, to denounce the Spanish aggression on Chili and the French assaults on Mexico. The attendance was large, and several members of Congress made speeches. Owing to the absence of numerous intending speakers, it was decided to hold another meeting in ten days. The Chilean Envoy addressed the meeting, expressing the sympathy of Chili with the United States, and denouncing the conduct of Spain towards Chili. Resolutions were passed declaring that the United States, by constantly indorsing the Monroe doctrine, had assumed a responsibility towards sister Republics, and obligations to protect them which it would be cowardly and dishonourable to neglect and repudiate.

The Fenian congress had adjourned *sine die*, after abolishing the titles of president and senator. The government will be conducted by the head centre and a central council of five. O'Mahony had been elected head centre for 1866. Roberts and the senators have been expelled from the brotherhood. A letter had been published from Stephens, dated "the Irish Republic, Dec. 23," appointing O'Mahony American representative and financial agent of the Irish republic and ignoring the existence of the senate.

MEXICO.

New York despatches of Mexican news are not usually of a character in which implicit reliance may be placed. The latest to hand state that Federal soldiers had been forbidden to enlist in the service of Juarez, and that a recruiting-office had been closed. Galveston papers state that Federal troops were passing through that city towards the Rio Grande. Another charge of cruelty is made against the Imperialists. General Mejia had captured thirty Republicans, whom he ordered to be shot in accordance with instructions from the Emperor. General Weitzel protested, but in vain. The military movements reported are confused, and of very doubtful authenticity.

CHILI.

We have advices from Valparaiso to the 9th inst. The blockade continued. Two ships of the Spanish fleet had gone in search of the Esmeralda. The Chileans seem to have done another smart thing. On the 2nd inst. they took the crew of the store-ship Salvador Vidat while the Spanish frigate was at sea searching vessels. Spanish diplomatic relations with Peru had wholly ceased.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Intelligence from Pekin announces that the Empress Dowager had resigned power, and that Prince Kung was again at the head of affairs. It was reported that Fienkofan had been defeated by the Nyenfei rebels. The position was considered alarming, as the Nyenfei were collecting in large numbers in Shangtung and Honan. Complicated questions were arising between the Chinese and French Governments on the subject of propagandism.

News from Japan states that the Ministers' mission to Osaka had proved successful, and the treaties had been ratified by the Mikado. The ports were to be opened to trade on Jan. 1, and the tariff was to be revised. Considerable excitement prevailed among the daimios on the subject, and the Mikado and the Tycoon were at one time in danger; but the affair ended well when the sanction was given.

OPENING OF THE FRENCH LEGISLATURE. SPEECH OF THE EMPEROR.

THE Session of the French Legislature was opened on Monday, at one o'clock, by the Emperor, who delivered the following speech:—

Messieurs les Sénateurs, Messieurs les Députés,—
The opening of the Legislative Session enables me periodically to lay before you the situation of the Empire and to express to you my views. As in previous years, I will examine with you the principal questions which interest our country. Abroad, peace seems everywhere assured; for everywhere there is a desire to seek the means of solving difficulties amicably, instead of cutting them by the sword. The reunion of the English and French fleets in the same ports has shown that the relations formed on fields of battle have not been weakened—that time has only cemented the good understanding of the two countries. With regard to Germany, my intention is to continue to observe a policy of neutrality which, without preventing us occasionally feeling regret or pleasure, nevertheless leaves us strangers to questions in which our interests are not directly engaged.

Italy, recognised by nearly all the European Powers, has asserted her unity by inaugurating her capital in the centre of the peninsula. We have reason to rely upon the scrupulous execution of the Treaty of the 15th of September, and upon the indispensable maintenance of the power of the Holy Father. The bonds which attach us to Spain and to Portugal have been further strengthened by my late interviews with the Sovereigns of those two kingdoms.

You have shared with me the general indignation which was produced by the assassination of President Lincoln; and, recently, the death of the King of the Belgians has caused universal regret.

In Mexico, the Government founded by the will of the people is being consolidated. The malcontents, vanquished and dispersed, have no longer any chief. The national troops have shown valour, and the country has found guarantees of order and security, which have developed its resources and raised its commerce with France alone from twenty-one millions to seventy-seven millions. Thus, as I expressed last year the hope, our expedition approaches its termination. I am arranging with the Emperor Maximilian to fix the time for the recall of our troops, in order that their return may be effected without compromising the French interests which we went to defend in that distant country.

The Northern States of America, having emerged victorious from a terrible conflict, have re-established the ancient Union and have solemnly proclaimed the abolition of slavery. France, which forgets no noble page of her history, sincerely prays for the prosperity of the great American republic and for the maintenance of the friendly relations which will soon have reached their centenary. The uneasiness produced in the United States by the presence of our army on Mexican soil will be appeased by the frankness of our declarations. The American people will comprehend that our expedition, in which we invited them to take a part, was not opposed to their interests. Two nations equally jealous of their independence ought to avoid any step which would implicate their dignity and their honour.

At home, the tranquillity which has prevailed has enabled me to visit Algeria, where my presence, I hope, will not have been unavailing to secure interests and to produce harmony among the races. My absence from France has, moreover, proved that I could be replaced by a firm heart and an elevated mind. It is in the midst of populations satisfied and confiding that our institutions are working. The municipal elections have taken place with the utmost order and the most entire liberty. The Maires being in the commune the representative of the central power, the Constitution has conferred upon me the right of selecting those officers from all the citizens, but the election of intelligent and devoted men has enabled me in nearly all cases to choose the Maires from among the members of the municipal councils. The law on coalitions, which had given rise to some apprehensions, has been put in force with great impartiality by the Government, and with moderation on the part of those interested. The working class, so intelligent, has comprehended that the greater the facilities which are given to it to discuss its interests, the more it is bound to respect the liberty of each and the security of all. The inquiry into co-operative societies has resulted in showing how just were the bases of the law which has been presented to you on this important subject. That law will permit the establishment of numerous associations to the advantage of labour and prudence. To encourage their development I have decided that the permission to combine shall be granted to all those who, apart from politics, desire to deliberate on their industrial interests as men of business. This permission will only be limited by the guarantees which public order requires.

The state of our finances will show you that, while the receipts continue their progressive increase, the expenditure has a tendency to diminish. In the new Budget the accidental or extraordinary resources have been replaced by normal and permanent resources. The law upon the Sinking Fund which will be submitted to you shows the institution of a certain revenue, and offers fresh securities to the creditors of the State. The equilibrium of the Budget is assured by an excess of receipts. In order to arrive at this result, savings have had to be effected in the greater part of the public services, and among others in the Department of War. The army being upon a peace footing, there were but the alternatives of reducing the cadres or the effectives. This last measure was impracticable, for the regiments scarcely reckoned the necessary number of soldiers. The good of the service counselled even an augmentation. By suppressing the skeleton (cadres) of 220 companies, forty-six squadrons, and forty batteries; but, at the same time, turning over the soldiers to the companies and squadrons still kept on foot, we have rather strengthened than weakened our regiments. The natural guardian of the interests of the army, I should not have consented to those reductions if they had been likely to impair our military organisation, or to deprive of the means of existence those whose services and devotion I have had opportunity of appreciating. The maintenance hereafter of all officers without troops, compromises no future; and the admission into administrative careers of officers and sub-officers who are approaching the period when they would be entitled to retire on half pay, will soon restore the regular movement of promotion. All interests will thus be secured, and the country will not have shown herself ungrateful towards those who shed their blood for her.

The budget of Public Works and that of Public Instruction have not undergone any diminution. It was desirable to preserve to the great enterprises of the State their fruitful activity, and to maintain the energetic impulse of public instruction. In the space of a few months, thanks to the devotedness of the schoolmasters, 13,000 new classes for adults have been opened in the communes of the empire.

Agriculture has made great progress since 1852. At this moment it is suffering from a depreciation in price in respect of cereals. This depreciation is the inevitable consequence of the extreme abundance of the harvests, and is not the result of the abolition of the sliding scale. Economic changes develop the general prosperity, but they cannot prevent partial hardships. I have considered that it would be useful to institute inquiry into the state and into the wants of agriculture. That inquiry will, I am convinced, confirm the principles of commercial liberty, and will facilitate the study of the proper means either of relieving local suffering or of realising further progress. The extent of our international transactions has not been diminished, and the general commerce, which last year was upwards of seven milliards, has increased by seven hundred millions. In the midst of this constantly-increasing prosperity, some uneasy minds, under the pretext of hastening the Liberal progress of the Government, have sought to impede that progress by depriving it of all force and all initiative. They lay hold of a word borrowed by me from the Emperor Napoleon I., and confound instability with progress. The Emperor, in declaring the necessity for the progressive improvement of human institutions, meant that the only lasting changes were those which are the work of time, brought about by the improvement of public manners. Those improvements flow from the moderation of passions, and not from unreasonable modifications of our fundamental laws. What advantage would there be in resuming on one day that which we had rejected the day before? The Constitution of 1852, submitted to the acceptance of the people, has undertaken to found a system reasonable and wisely based upon a just equilibrium of the different powers of the State. It keeps at an equal distance from two extreme situations. With one Chamber holding within itself the fate of Ministers, the Executive is without authority and without spirit. Again, it is without control if the elective Chamber is not independent and in possession of legitimate prerogatives. Our Constitutional forms, which have a certain analogy with those of the United States, are not defective simply because they differ from those of England. Each people should have institutions which are conformable to its genius and to its traditions. It is true that every Government has its defects; but, in glancing over the past, I am rejoiced, at the end of fourteen years, to find France respected abroad and tranquil at home, without political captives in her prisons, without exiles beyond her frontiers. The nation has during eighty years sufficiently discussed theories of government. Is it not now more useful to seek practical means for improving the moral and material condition of the people? Let us, then, employ ourselves in spreading abroad sound economical doctrines, the love of good and religious principles. Let us seek to resolve by the freedom of transactions the difficult problem of the just distribution of productive forces, and let us endeavour to improve the conditions of labour in our fields and in our workshops.

When all Frenchmen now invested with political rights shall have been enlightened by education they will discern the truth without difficulty and will not allow themselves to be seduced by deceptive theories; when all those who live by their daily toil shall be convinced of the increasing benefits which are procured by assiduous labour they will be firm supporters of a society which ensures their well-being and their dignity. Finally, when all shall have received from their childhood those principles of faith and morality which elevate man in his own eyes, they will know that above all human intelligence—above the efforts of science and of reason—there exists a Supreme Will which regulates the destinies of individuals, as it does those of nations.

MR. BRIGHT ON THE AMERICAN TARIFF.

THE following letter from Mr. Bright appears in a Chicago paper:—

Rochdale, Dec. 2, 1865.
Dear Sir,—I do not recollect any paper directly bearing on the question of wages. The fallacy was made great use of in our movement for the repeal of the Corn Laws—honestly by some men, and dishonestly by others. The real argument against it is this:—Free trade always means great trade, and great trade always means a great demand for labour, and this always means and necessitates a high rate of wages. At this moment wages are higher than at any former period in this country at any former period, at least, within our recollection. It is so through all our manufacturing districts, although the length of the day's labour is much shorter. It is so also with our farm labourers. In many counties their wages have risen from 25 to 50 per cent since 1846, when our agricultural industry was subjected to the competition of all the world. The labourers in America are taxed enormously in the purchase of many articles, particularly in their clothing. Americans and Englishmen going from England to America now supply themselves with clothing to last them for years; they buy it for about half the price it would cost in the States, and thus withdraw their trade from the American manufacturers and escape the payment of the extravagant duties in the American ports. Protection to the manufacturers of iron and cloth in America may, and doubtless will, enrich some of them, but it is by a contribution from the whole people to those engaged in these particular branches of industry. This system will encourage the investment of capital in the protected trade, and it will tend to deaden industry and invention in those States; and whatever is gained on the one hand is far more than lost on the other. When the tariff question is fairly before the American people the truth will be discovered. They may consent to a moderate tariff for revenue on all great articles of import by which incidentally some protection may be unavoidably afforded to some branches of manufacture; but they will not long consent to sustain branches of industry too feeble to sustain themselves out of the taxes not levied for the service of the Government, but extorted from them by the protective fallacy for the exclusive benefit of manufactures forming a small portion of their whole population. It should be remembered, also, that the extra profit, if any, given to the ironmasters and manufacturers does not go to their workmen. It may increase the dividends of the companies or corporations, but it does not sensibly raise the wages of their workmen; for the wages of their workmen are determined by the general rule of labour throughout all the States, and are not affected in any important or measurable degree by the profits made by the various manufacturing corporations. If there be profit in protection or monopoly—and there often is—the workman's share is none at all, or so little as to be imperceptible. A corporation working a very profitable patent pays no more wages to workmen than a neighbouring corporation carrying on a trade not protected by a patent, and, while monopoly may enrich those who possess and enjoy it, it cannot affect advantageously the interests and wages of the workmen. The workmen's safety and success depend upon the state of trade and the greatness of the demand for labour; and far above any possible interest they can have—I speak of the whole body of workmen in the United States, or any other country—in any special protection to any trade, or in the fostering and pampering of any particular manufacture, in the great interest they have in that perfect freedom of trade which creates the greatest demand for labour and gives the highest value to their skill and industry. It is interesting to see the old fallacy, and one so potent in this country, now dead and buried in hope and belief for ever, reappearing with a new life in the United States—a land where the superstitions of Europe have not generally found a congenial home. Happily for the Americans, this question of free trade is not mixed up, as ours was, with a great political question, and with the supposed supremacy of a powerful territorial and aristocratic class. They will find out the truth sooner than our people did, and they will be able to discuss it free from any circumstances which were formidable difficulties in our way. All the countries in Europe are tending to freedom of trade, and all good and wise men rejoice at it. It will be strange indeed if America, foremost of all the world in the knowledge, and possession, and practice of political freedom, should be the last in discovering the priceless value of freedom of industry, which may be fairly termed the "Charter of Freedom" to the millions of workmen in every country where industry is free.
I am, &c., JOHN BRIGHT.

THE CATTLE PLAQUE.

THE following despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from her Majesty's Consul-General at Odessa:—

Odessa, Jan. 8, 1866.
My Lord.—The following important information respecting the cattle plague has been kindly supplied to me in answer to a series of questions I addressed to Prince Mavroukby and the principal landowners and cattle-breeders of Bessarabia. As it differs materially from the information transmitted to your Lordship from the province of Kherson, in my despatch dated Nov. 24, 1865, and as I can depend on the facts stated being in every particular the result of actual experience, I lose no time in submitting them to your Lordship's attention.

1. The Bessarabian cattle owners and breeders state that the plague during the last few years has been permanent in Russia. It exists sometimes in one district, sometimes in another, of that vast country. Up to the present nothing is known with certainty either of the true cause of the disease or of the proper means of treatment for its cure. On one point only there exists no doubt—it is certainly contagious.

2. No remedies which have been yet tried—neither fumigation, friction, bleeding, nor medicine—have met with enough success to warrant their recommendation. From time to time a few beasts recover, and each person attributes their cure to the remedy he has employed; but general experience has not confirmed such assertions in any case.

3. One opinion only appears to merit serious attention, and is now under anxious consideration. That opinion is in favour of vaccination, which the Imperial Government has undertaken to introduce throughout the infected districts by competent veterinary surgeons employed for that purpose. Time only can decide whether vaccination will afford a sure protection from the disease; but at present it seems to promise more satisfactorily than anything else which has been tried.

4. Effective means may be taken to restrain the plague from spreading. For this purpose it is advisable, as soon as it is found to exist in any district, that all communication with other places should be strictly prohibited.

5. Dead animals should be buried as soon as possible, and in no case should it be allowed to skin them previously for their hides. They should be buried in the state they die.

6. Great care should be taken not to suffer diseased beasts to drink out of the same troughs as healthy ones.

7. Healthy cattle should be separated at once from the diseased, and immediately any beast falls sick among them the healthy cattle should be taken away and transferred to other pasturage. By these means large herds have been entirely saved.

8. These facts are indisputable; but there is still to be mentioned a probable theory as to the origin of the malady.

9. It is to be observed that the disease rages more violently in the south of Russia than in the north; that it generally breaks out in autumn and not during the great frosts. Therefore it seems clear that cold is not only far from being the first cause of it, but has not even any influence over it. It is well remembered that before the year 1846 (when free trade in corn began with England), and when Odessa exported much less grain to foreign countries than now, this disease was very rare, but it appeared always after every campaign in the wars with Turkey. Now, these wars occasioned a great deal of cartage for the commissariat of the army. The wagons used by the commissariat were drawn by bullocks, who were thus forced to make long journeys during the great heats of summer across arid steppes, where no pasture or wholesome water could be found; the plague soon seized them, and they rotted and died in great numbers.

The same cause will continue to operate in a greater or less degree until the establishment of railways puts an end to the transport of merchandise for long distances by oxen. Until then it is more than probable Russia will be always devastated by this terrible malady.

Oxen are principally employed on the hardest service during three or four weeks of the hottest part of the year, during which they have no other food than the withered herbs they can crop by the roadside.

Every year more than a million wagons, each drawn by two oxen, coming from different parts of the country, arrive at Odessa alone. As they draw nearer and nearer to their journey's end their food grows more and more scanty and worse in quality, so that they are reduced for several days following to feed upon the meagre roots of grass, which they swallow mixed with dust, and quench their thirst with the muddy liquid which remains of the stagnant water left in ponds and puddles by the roadside.

10. This seems to be really the sole cause of this terrible disease, and the wagons returning to their several homes spread it throughout the country.

11. On examining an ox attacked by the plague, it will be found that it first becomes dull and spiritless; it ceases to ruminate, it eats with difficulty, and its sufferings manifest themselves by a violent diarrhoea. This is a proof that the disease lies in the digestive organs, and probably springs from improper nourishment.

The opinion of French doctors that this sickness may be caught by men from diseased cattle is not warranted by experience in Bessarabia, no case having been ever known to have occurred there.

The plague does not appear either to be caught by sheep, who have a disease of their own also contagious, but which differs very much from the cattle plague among oxen; and it may be remarked that these two diseases very seldom exist at the same time and place.—I have, &c., E. C. GRENVILLE MURRAY.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Clarendon, K.G.

THE DISPUTE in the South Yorkshire colliery districts is ended, except in one case, and that one, unhappily, shows no sign of a termination.

OBITUARY.

LORD EDWARD ST. MAUR.—The death of Lord E. St. Maur, the second son of the Duke of Somerset, has occurred in India under very melancholy circumstances. His Lordship arrived in Bombay from Marseilles in the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer Jeddah on Nov. 9. He became the guest of the Governor, and accompanied his Excellency to Dharwar. His Lordship there joined Shaw Stewart, Esq., Collector of Canara, and they travelled together on their way to Carwar. They were subsequently joined by Mr. Brand, an officer in the Guards, and by Mr. Walker, the civil engineer of the district. On the 11th inst. these gentlemen were out bison-stalking, but, being in a jungle district, could not keep close together. As he proceeded, Lord St. Maur came unexpectedly across a bear, at which he fired his pistol, lodging the contents in the breast of the animal. It then attacked him, when, drawing a sheathed staking-knife, his Lordship thrust it into the bear, inflicting a mortal wound. In the scuffle, however, they had both approached a precipice, over which they fell together. Here the bearers came up and relieved Lord St. Maur from his adversary. His presence of mind did not forsake him, and he wrote with a pencil on the sheath of his knife (having no other appliances) to his fellow-sportsmen who were in the vicinity, informing them of his condition. They having arrived, a great difficulty was experienced as to removing him from the ravine into which he had fallen, and the only means of doing so was to set about clearing a pathway up to the high ground above. This being accomplished, the poor sufferer was removed to Yellapoor, where an apothecary was found, who rendered all the service he could, and whose treatment was fully approved of on the arrival subsequently of Drs. Langley and Kilroy. They, however, had to be sent for, the one from Dharwar, the other from Belgaum; this necessarily caused a delay of about seventy hours. Amputation of the leg was at once resolved upon, to which the sufferer submitted heroically. He soon, however, began to sink from the combined effects of the operation and the shock his system had sustained. He died on the 20th ult., at two a.m., and was buried at Yellapoor, near the spot where lies also buried a Mr. Carpendale, a young officer who died there a few years since.

COUNT ZAMOYSKI.—One of the most retired parts of London has just witnessed the death of a man whose name has of late, as it has in past history, been loudly and honourably mentioned among the prominent characters of Poland. Count Zamoyski, who died on the 9th inst., at 12, Warden-road, Kentish Town, at the age of sixty-seven years, was the head of his family, the proprietor of the large entailed estate of Zamosc, the brother of Count Andrew and General Zamoyski, well known in England. Amidst the various vicissitudes and succession of disasters which occurred in his country during his life, his career was highly honourable and useful, especially in his steady, unceasing, and successful exertions to ameliorate the conditions of the peasantry on his vast estates. The state of Poland, and the grief he felt in consequence, had induced him for many years to live in complete retirement in England, and seems to have hastened his otherwise quiet and Christian end.

SIR JOHN HALL.—Sir John Hall, M.D., K.C.B., Inspector-General of Hospitals, died at Pisa, Italy, on the 17th of January, aged seventy-two. Sir John Hall served the campaign of 1815 in Flanders, and the campaign of 1847 in Kaffraria, as head of the Medical Department under Sir George Berkeley, and was thanked in general orders (medal). In 1858 he accompanied Sir Harry Smith across the Orange River, as principal medical officer of the force employed against the emigrant Boers; was present at the battle of Boom Plat, and specially mentioned in Sir Harry's despatch for services on the field, and subsequently thanked in general orders. Was principal medical officer of the army in Kaffraria, under Sir Harry Smith, during the campaign of 1851, and thanked in general orders on his being ordered to India. Served as principal medical officer of the Eastern Army from the 18th of June, 1854, to the 5th of July, 1856, without being absent from duty for a single day; was present at the affairs of Bulganc and Mackenzie's Farm, battles of Alma (mentioned in despatches), Balaklava, Inkerman, and Tchernaya, capture of Balaklava, siege and fall of Sebastopol, taking of the Rifle Pits and Quarries, assault of the Redan on the 18th of June (medal with four clasps, K.C.B., officer of the Legion of Honour, third class of the Medjidie, and Turkish medal).

DR. PETRIE.—Dr. Petrie, the author of "The Round Towers of Ireland," has just died in Dublin. He was born in 1791. His profession was that of a painter, but he devoted himself ardently to antiquarian pursuits. He edited the *Dublin Penny Journal* along with the Rev. Cesar Otway. His essay on the Round Towers received the gold medal of the Royal Irish Academy about the year 1837. He subsequently wrote an essay on the military antiquities of Ireland, which also obtained its prize, in which he showed that works of Cyclopean architecture remained in Ireland—the relics of a primitive race in a remote age. He was afterwards engaged on the historical and antiquarian section of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland. Dr. Petrie also did much for the preservation of native Irish music, and is said to have left behind him a valuable collection of it, in great part unpublished.

DR. MAITLAND.—The death is announced of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Roffey Maitland. For some years he was librarian and keeper of the MSS. at Lambeth Palace, and in recognition of his services in that capacity Archbishop Howley conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society and of the Society of Arts. He wrote on various subjects, among others on the State of Religion and Literature, the Reformation, Prophecy, the Nature, History, and Destiny of Man, Superstition, Science, and Mesmerism.

GENERAL CHARRETT.—This celebrated sportsman, who may be said to have been "up to all in the ring," and for very many years sustained the reputation of being one of the shrewdest men on the turf, died a few days ago. He was a great stepph-chaser, a first-rate shot, a splendid billiard-player, and, what was more, one of the best amateur Shakespearean actors of his day. At Cheltenham he used to sustain the principal parts when the late Colonel Berkeley was in full swing, and ruled the destinies of the drama at that watering-place, and, it is stated, on one occasion that, for a bet of £100, he undertook to play a match at billiards, win a stepph-chase, and play Foulconbridge, in King John, all which he accomplished within the prescribed time. He was in his eighty-third year.

PROFESSOR SCOTT.—The death was announced on Saturday last of Mr. Alexander John Scott, M.A., Professor of Moral and Mental Philosophy and of English Literature at Owen's College, Manchester. He was the author of several philosophical works.

THE PONTIFICAL GOVERNMENT, it is asserted, has concluded a loan of 50,000,000*l.* with Messrs. Rothschild.

THE FORMATION OF THE EUROPEAN SANITARY COMMISSION is reported to be complete. It will meet early in February and proceed to examine into the best means of arresting the progress of cholera and protecting Europe from its ravages.

COMMONS AND OPEN SPACES.—An influential meeting was held at the Mansion House, on Wednesday, to take steps to preserve for the public use the open spaces about the metropolis. The Lord Mayor presided, and several members of Parliament were present. Resolutions were passed and speeches delivered declaring it to be essential that the commons and open spaces should be preserved. It was also resolved to support the society which had been formed for carrying out the objects for which the meeting was held.

A BEAR ON FIRE.—The guardians of the Garden of Plants, Paris, were lately surprised by hearing extraordinary howlings proceed from the bear-pit. On going to the spot they found that one of the bears was on fire; and, after vainly attempting to extinguish the flames by rolling the poor animal on the ground, they at last succeeded in plunging him into the large basin of water intended as a bath for him and his fellows. It appears that the bear's fur was set on fire by one of the new fireworks playthings which a mischievous person had lighted and thrown into the pit.

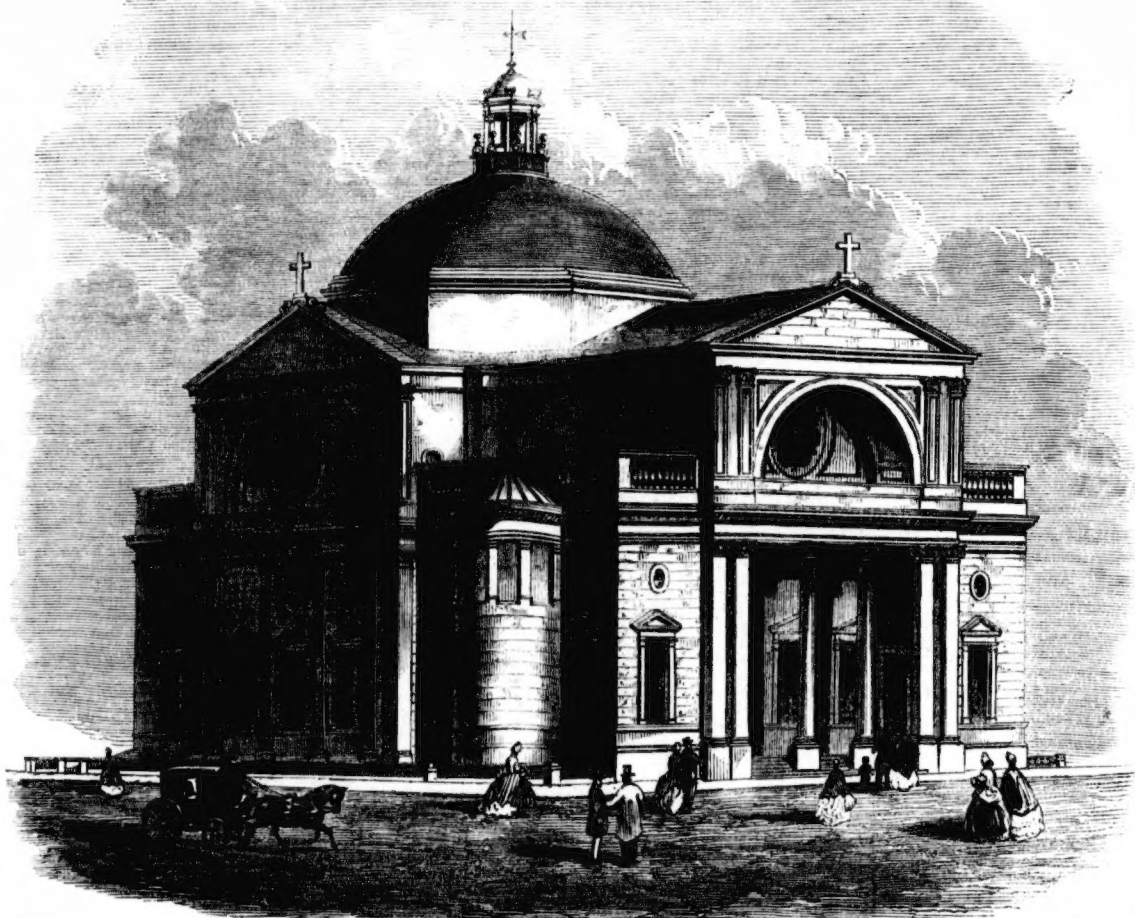
A MUNIFICENT CORPORATION AND ITS CHAPLAIN.—The parish church at Doncaster, to which the Corporation subscribed £9400, having been completed at a cost of £55,000, an effort is now being made to erect national schools close to the edifice, and to abandon the building near the railway station now used as the national schools. Towards the new building Dr. Vaughan, chaplain to the Corporation, late Head Master of Harrow, and Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, has headed a subscription-list with the liberal sum of £1000, besides having purchased the leasehold of the property on the proposed site at the cost of £500. On Sunday, when preaching sermons on behalf of the national schools, the Vicar gratefully acknowledged the promises of support from twenty of his parishioners, who had put down their names for £500. The cost of the new schools will be £4000. The Corporation has headed a subscription for new grammar schools with the handsome sum of £2000; and a site, valued at £1000, has been presented by Mr. W. H. Forman, of Pippbrook House, Dorking, the owner of considerable land in the town.

IN THE LIONS' DEN.—An unprecedented scene occurred at the Cirque Napoléon, on Monday night, during the performance of Mr. Batté, the successor of Van Amburg, who is now exhibiting in Paris. The moment he entered the wild beasts' cage the lionsess was observed to be in a terrible rage. The lions were also roaring and jumping about, and Mr. Batté seemed to have lost his usual influence over them. The public, fearing to see him torn in pieces, cried, "Go out, go out!" Mr. Batté took the advice, and cautiously withdrew, walking backwards. The cause of the extraordinary commotion in the cage was soon ascertained. A few minutes before the commencement of the performance the lionsess had given birth to a cub, who was thought to be an only son. The young lion was taken away from her and given to a bitch to suckle; but, just as Batté entered the cage, the lionsess unexpectedly produced a second young one, and the lions wanted to eat it—a propensity said to be very common with wild beasts when in a state of captivity. The fury of the lionsess in defence of her offspring, and the ferocious attitude of her companions in the cage, produced an extraordinary panic among the spectators, and several ladies fainted. After a short pause, Batté contrived to separate the lionsess from the cub, and the latter, about the size of a cat, was held up by the nape of the neck for the inspection of the company.

THE VALUE OF THE WINE exported from France during the first ten months of 1865 was £3,960,000, and that of the eggs £1,280,000.

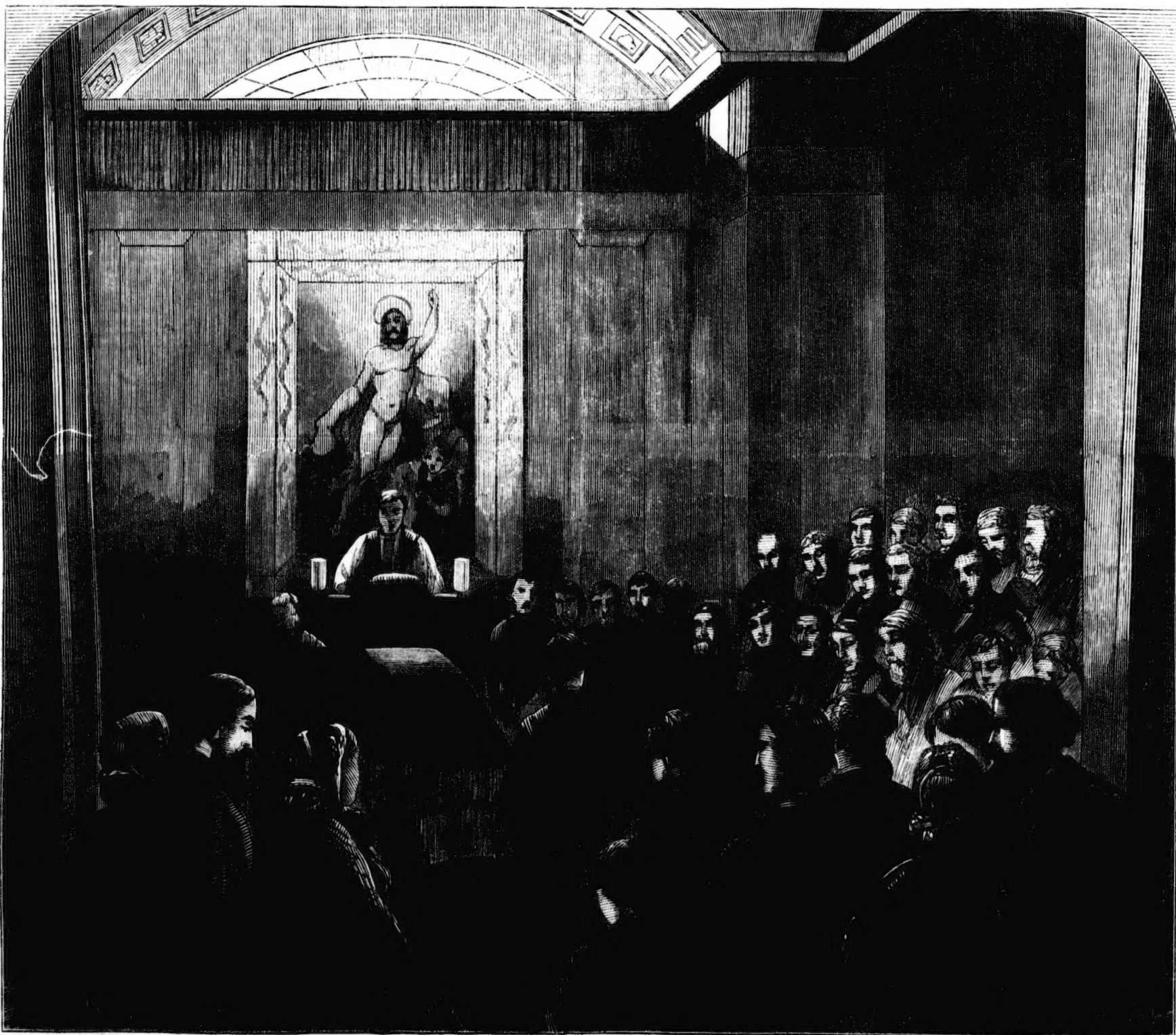
FREE ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GLASGOW.

FREE St. George's congregation, Glasgow, have long stood pre-eminent as one of the most liberal in the city. During the last twenty years they have raised nearly £60,000, taking only about twenty per cent from this to meet their own expenses, ministers' stipend, &c., the remainder going to assist other congregations, mission work, &c. They have now erected a very handsome church, in quite a new style of architecture, and which will not yield in point of beauty to any of the very handsome churches already in Glasgow. The whole expense of building and ground will be about £11,000. The ground alone cost £2600. Under the pastorate of Mr. Freer, one of the most accomplished and able young ministers in the Free Church, the congregation must prosper. The entrance-front, which faces Elderslie-street, has a recessed portico, from each side of which the principal entrance-doors open into corridors or loggia, which extend on each flank from the front to the projecting transept. These loggia are each 35 ft. long and 12 ft. wide; they communicate with the main body of the church by arched openings, which give them the character of side aisles, and aid the effect of the interior. From these corridors projecting semicircular staircases afford the means of ascent to galleries. On this level are placed two waiting-rooms. There are three galleries, supported by strong iron beams, which bridge the space from wall to wall, and render pillars unnecessary. The church can accommodate 1000 sitters, the pews are 2 ft. 9 in. wide, and 20 in. are allowed for each person. In addition to the



FREE ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH GLASGOW—(BOUCHER AND COUSLAND, GLASGOW, ARCHT. E.T.)

main entrance doors there are two porches at the pulpit end, thus affording abundant and convenient means of exit. The four arms of the cruciform plan, which are each 40 ft. wide, have semicircular vaulted ceilings, united at the intersection by pendentives into a dome. The four angles of the dome are enriched by eight detached Ionic columns, and twelve pilasters, over which an entablature and cornice form the spring of the vaults and dome, and is carried round the church. Lighting and ventilation will be secured by a large, powerful sunlight, under the centre of the dome; the warming, by a system of hot-water pipes, carried in flues under the passages. In the basement floor are situated a large hall, session-house, and minister's room. The recessed portico in the entrance front has columns of the Ionic order, 27 ft. high, flanked by massive pilastered piers. The cornice of this order is carried round the two fronts, and forms the crowning member of the side aisles and projecting staircases. The upper or clerestory portion of the design rises to a height of 27 ft. above the side aisles. A recessed semicircular arch, 30 ft. in span, is carried over the cornice of the portico, and the angle piers on each side are formed of coupled pilasters, with composite capitals; a cornice and pediment surmounts the whole and completes the facade. Three windows are placed under the portico and on each side of the church, to light the area under the galleries, and each corridor has three windows; all the lower windows are pedimented. The projecting staircases form a novel feature in the design, and have a ring of windows immediately under the entablature. Four circular windows and eight semicircular



FUNERAL OF THE LATE SIR CHARLES EASTLAKE, AT KENSAL-GREEN CEMETERY: READING THE SERVICE IN THE CHAPEL.

clerestory windows are placed above the level of the cornice. A dome rises through the roofs at their intersection 45 ft. in diameter, and forms the leading feature in the design. The dome is surmounted by a lantern tower, and the church presents a fine combination of the Italian and Byzantine styles of architecture. It is unique in its design amongst the many sacred edifices now springing up in the western and other parts of the city, and cannot fail to prove highly ornamental to the locality. Commanding as it does a fine site, with a frontage to two streets, its effects as a whole are not so apt to be lost as too often happens with many of our public buildings.

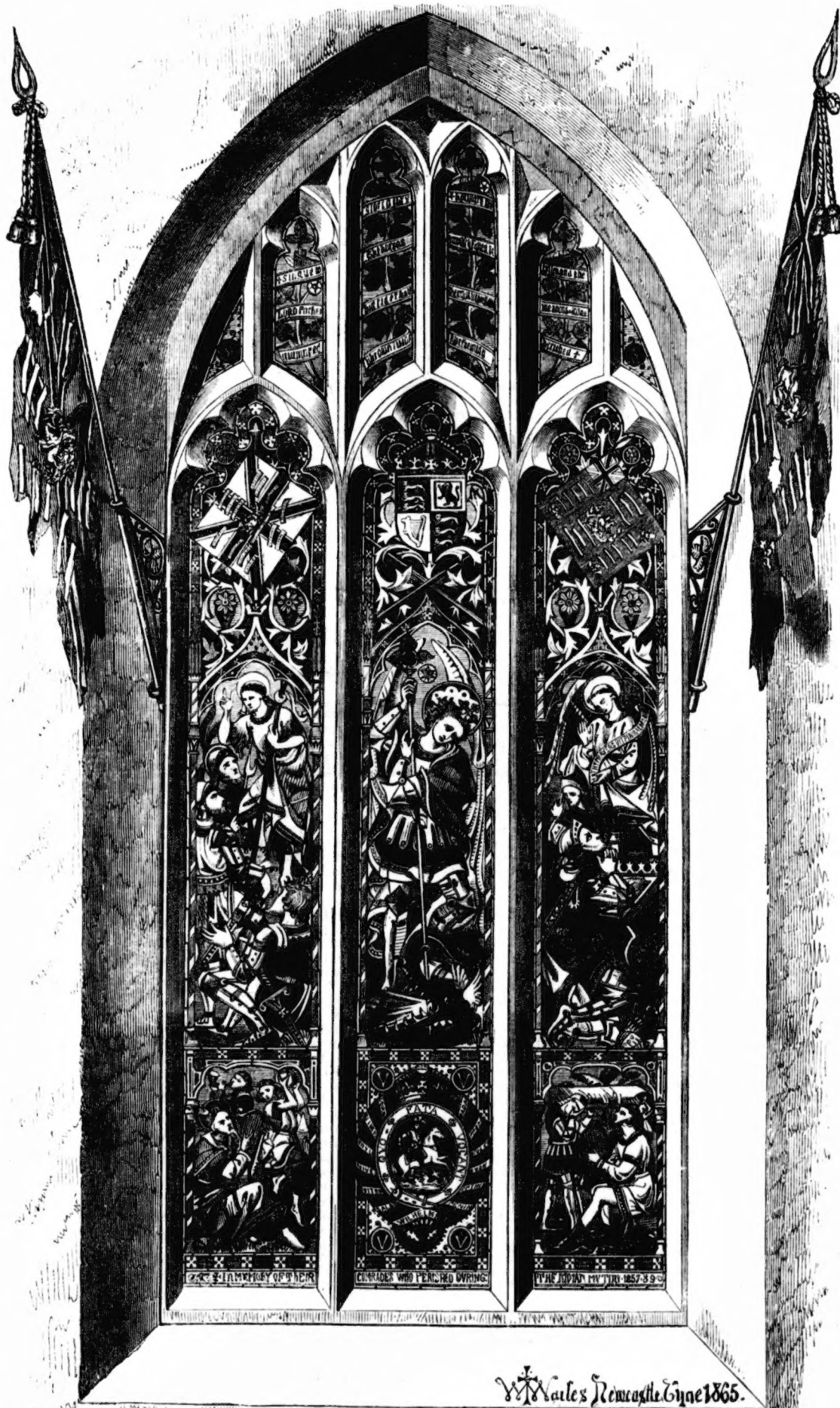
FUNERAL OF SIR C. EASTLAKE.

As already mentioned in our columns, on Thursday, the 18th inst., the last honours were paid by the members of the Royal Academy of Arts to their late president, Sir C. Eastlake, in conducting his remains—brought in the first instance from Italy to the family residence in Fitzroy-square, and thence to the apartments of the Royal Academy in Trafalgar-square—to their final resting-place in the cemetery at Kensal-green. By half-past ten o'clock gentlemen whose names have attained wide repute in the artistic world were assembling in considerable numbers at Trafalgar-square, and shortly after eleven o'clock the solemn procession began to move. While the occupants of the carriages were taking their seats the foot traffic along the pathway immediately beneath the National Gallery was stopped, and crowds at once collected at each end of the square; but, independently of these, spectators to the number of several hundreds had taken their places previously and were waiting with patience on the opposite side of the way to see the funeral party emerge from the portals of the Royal Academy. One of those black boards of nodding plumes, for some inscrutable reason considered a fitting prelude to all English funerals, was carried out in the first place, and following close upon this came the coffin, the principal officers of the Academy acting as pall-bearers. In the first carriage were Mr. William Eastlake and Mr. Charles Eastlake, nephews of the late Sir Charles, together with an old family servant, Nicholas Tucker. The second carriage contained two other nephews of the late president, Dr. H. Eastlake and Mr. J. Eastlake; and in the third were seated the chief officials of the Royal Academy—viz, Mr. J. P. Knight, secretary; Mr. C. Landseer, registrar; Mr. Sidney Smirke, treasurer; and Mr. S. A. Hart, librarian. In the carriages which followed came the members of the Academy and Associates, with some private friends of Lady Eastlake. Among the gentlemen present were Sir E. Landseer, Mr. A. Cooper, Messrs. D. Macclise, P. McDowall, Beresford Hope, M.P., J. R. Herbert, F. Taylor, C. W. Cope, R. Westmacott, T. Creswick, R. Redgrave, F. Grant, Calder Marshall, W. P. Frith, S. Cousins, F. Hurleston, E. M. Ward, F. R. Pickersgill, G. T. Doo, H. Warren, G. G. Scott, P. F. Foot, H. Weeks, F. Boxall, F. Goodall, J. E. Millais, J. E. Horsley, J. F. Lewis, Professor Partridge, J. Archer, J. Ballantyne, J. Faed, J. Houghton, E. Nicol, W. E. Frost, G. Richmond, H. O'Neill, W. C. F. Dobson, R. Ansdell, Baron Marochetti, E. W. Barry, J. Sant, Henry Le Jeune, P. Calderon, F. Leighton, E. B. Stephens, L. Stocks, R. J. Lane, R. Graves, R. N. Wornum, A. H. Bowler and H. Eyre. Of the twenty-two mourning-carriages following the hearse three were occupied by deputations from the Royal Academy of Scotland and other kindred bodies. The last contained a representation of the body of the students, the four gentlemen selected for this purpose being students by whom scholarships and other distinctions have been won—namely, F. Holl, C. Calthorpe, P. Ball, and A. Ridge. Immediately following the mourning-coaches was one of her Majesty's carriages, which attended as a mark at once of the esteem in which the late Sir C. Eastlake was held and of sympathy with the Academy in the loss sustained by them. The Royal example was largely followed, the length of the procession being nearly doubled by private carriages accompanying it. Among the friends of Lady Eastlake occupying seats in the mourning-carriages were Sir Roderick Murchison, Mr. Layard, M.P.; Mr. Herman Merivale, Mr. John Forster, Mr. Murray (publisher), Mr. Henry Reeve, Mr. Palgrave Simpson, Mr. Palgrave, Dr. Hooker, and others. The procession was expected to reach Kensal-green Cemetery at a quarter to one o'clock, but it was long past that hour when the slow tolling of the bell gave signal of its approach. According to arrangements previously made the Bishop of Oxford was to have read the burial service; but, matters of importance detaining the Bishop in his own diocese, the Rev. Mr. Stuart, chaplain to the burial-ground, officiated. Many persons had come together here to meet the procession, so that at the conclusion of the service in the mortuary chapel there was a numerous gathering at the edge of the newly-constructed vault. Looking round upon the bare-headed

circle of those who have so often made "studies" of others, it was remarkable what diversity revealed itself when their hats were removed among the circle of Academicians that, upon the steps of Trafalgar-square, presented such a uniform appearance. Some were there with velvet caps and complexions approximating, through intimate association, perhaps, to those works of the ancient masters which they delight to study and reproduce; others with the bold, confident look of a younger school; some with the trim, neatly-shorn visage not many years ago considered the true indication of the English gentleman; others with the full latitude of beard and whisker claimed in modern times; but, whatever the minor differences, in the aggregate they constituted a memorable array. All equally graduates of that profession whose mission it is to teach the heart while charming the eye, there was not a man among them who, by his productions, has not done something to enhance the

that period. In order to assist the reader in following the design, we may remark that the regiment is empowered by Royal authority to wear a badge, the centre of which is composed of the allegorical subject of St. George and the Dragon, surrounded by a wreath of laurel entwined by scrolls, bearing the following distinctions, as indicative of the many services in which it has been engaged:—Wilhelmsthal, Roleia, Vimiera, Corunna, Busaco, Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Nivelle, Orthes, Toulouse, Peninsula, and Lucknow. The badge is surmounted by the Royal crown, whilst upon a garter, intersecting the wreath and the device of St. George and the Dragon, is inscribed the motto "Quo fata vocant." During the Indian campaign the regiment suffered loss in killed—140 officers and men of all ranks; there being in addition to this number some 226 officers and men of all ranks who fell victims to disease or were otherwise missing

during that memorable period; and it is in memory of these brave fellows that the window has been erected in the parish church of the chief town of the county from which the regiment takes its name. The window, which is placed in the north-east corner of the nave of St. Nicholas, consists of three compartments, separated by the stone mullions, and several smaller lights as tracery, the whole of which have been filled with the richest quality of glass. The principal subject occupies the centre light, and represents St. Michael slaying the Dragon, as allegorical of the final victory of good over evil. In the tracery formed by the foliage of the canopy is emblazoned the Royal arms; in the panel below is the badge of the regiment, with the motto, "Quo fata vocant," and on a wreath of laurel the names of the numerous engagements, already referred to, in which it has borne a part. On the right and left of the Royal arms are depicted facsimiles of the regimental colours borne by the regiment during the Indian campaign, and which have been presented to the church by the officers, and are suspended from ornamental brackets over the window. The groups of figures on each side of the principal subject are drawn from sacred history, the first being John the Baptist preaching to the soldiers, as narrated by St. Luke in the third chapter of his Gospel:—"He said unto them, do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely, and be content with your wages." The other is the vision of Cornelius, the devout Centurion, from the tenth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. The angel appears to him while engaged in prayer, and bears upon a scroll the words of the narrative:—"Thy prayers and thine alms have come up for a memorial before God." These two groups are selected to prove that the science of arms is not inconsistent with a Christian profession, and that a man may be a faithful soldier and at the same time an exemplary Christian. Under these are two smaller groups of figures, bearing more directly upon the memorial character of the window. The one on the left is a representation of the Song of Moses after crossing the Red Sea. He is seated in the foreground, with a harp, and behind him are figures with timbrels and other musical instruments, praising God for their deliverance and for the overthrow of their enemies, the Egyptians. In the tracery near the apex of the window the burden of the song is rendered on scrolls entwined round wreaths of foliage:—"Sing ye to the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea." The other group represents David mourning over Saul and Jonathan, whose bier is being borne along; the text in the tracery being, "How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! How are the mighty fallen and the weapons of war perished!" On a large illuminated brass plate in the wall below the window is the following inscription:—"To the glory of God, and in memory of their undermentioned comrades who perished during the Indian mutiny of 1857-8-9, this window is erected by the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the 5th or Northumberland Fusiliers." [Here follow 140 names.] "Also in memory of Assistant Surgeon Cameron, 1



FIFTH (NORTHUMBERLAND) FUSILIERS' MEMORIAL WINDOW RECENTLY ERECTED IN ST. NICHOLAS'S CHURCH, NEWCASTLE.

beauty or grace of English homes. Silent but effectual teachers, their works remain and influence, though they themselves may pass away. This thought may have brought consolation to many present when they looked down upon the simple plate surmounting the coffin of oak on which appeared the record that Charles Lock Eastlake, P.R.A., was born on the 17th of November, 1793, and died on the 24th of December, 1865.

THE FIFTH (NORTHUMBERLAND) FUSILIERS' MEMORIAL WINDOW IN ST. NICHOLAS'S CHURCH, NEWCASTLE.

THE 6th of December last witnessed the completion of a memorial window in the Church of St. Nicholas, Newcastle, which has been placed there by the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the above regiment in affectionate remembrance of their comrades who fell in India during the years 1857-8-9 whilst assisting in quelling the mutiny which took place amongst the native regiments during

sergeant-major, 13 sergeants, 2 drummers, and 209 rank and file who died during the subsequent service of the regiment in India, which it left early in 1861." The window and its accessories are from the establishment of Messrs. Wailes and Son, of Newcastle, and reflect the greatest credit upon that well-known firm, no less from the beauty and appropriateness of the design than for the excellence of the workmanship; and as such will no doubt be long valued as an adornment to the venerable Church of St. Nicholas, while at the same time it will be a chaste though melancholy memorial of those who sacrificed their lives whilst fighting the battles of their Queen and country.

HISTORY OF THE REGIMENT.

A brief glance at the services of this popular and now celebrated regiment, whose career has been associated more or less with the history of our country for a period of nearly 200 years, may not be uninteresting. And, in tracing its origin and the circumstances

under which it was formed, we must go back to the early part of 1674, when the treaty of peace was concluded between England and Holland. In that year Charles II. disbanded part of his army, and many of the officers and men proceeded to Holland; and the formation of a British division—such as had existed in former years—was commenced. The original design was to have a division of 10,000 men, to be commanded in chief (under the Prince of Orange) by Major-General Sir Walter Vane; but, while the organisation of this force was in progress, Sir Walter was killed at the Battle of Senefé, which was fought on the 11th of August, 1674. In the winter of 1674 four regiments of British subjects were formed at Bois-le-Duc, in addition to ten regiments already formed in the autumn—namely, two English, one Scotch, and one Irish, the latter being the one now designated the 5th Regiment of Foot, or Northumberland Fusiliers. Its first Colonel was Daniel O'Brien, Viscount Clare; but he resigned soon afterwards, and quitted Holland. In the following year the command of the regiment was conferred on Colonel John Fenwick, who had distinguished himself at the Battle of Senefé; and at this period the regiment discontinued the designation of "Irish," and many English gentlemen received commissions in it. Owing to the indisposition of the Prince of Orange, the regiment was not called into active service until the early part of July, 1676, from which year until 1688 it took part in most of the engagements undertaken by the Prince of Orange against the encroachments of the French. In the latter-named year the arbitrary conduct of the British Court occasioned many of the nobility to solicit the Prince of Orange to come with an armed force to their aid, which he at length acceded to. The Prince's army consisted of 15,000 men, of which the most formidable were the six British regiments; and with these he set sail on Nov. 1, 1688. This gallant army, on landing, was joined by many of the home regiments; so that King James, discovering that his army would not be subservient to his designs, fled to France. Colonel Tollemache's regiment marched to London, and was permanently placed on the English establishment; and, taking date from June 5, 1685, the day on which it first received pay from the British Crown, it obtained rank as the 5th Regiment of Foot.

In 1690 the 5th Regiment was ordered to Ireland to assist in quelling the rebellion which, under King James, had unfortunately broken out there; and, on the 1st of July, it took part in the Battle of the Boyne. Passing over many engagements in which the regiment, wholly or partially, was conspicuous during the disturbances in Ireland, we come to 1692, when it embarked for Flanders to join the army of the allies, who were engaged in a war with France; but it had not sooner arrived there than, in consequence of the French King making active preparations for replacing James on the English throne, the 5th, with two other regiments, was ordered to return. After taking part in the expedition against Martinico, it was again ordered to Flanders in consequence of the heavy loss which the allies had sustained at the battle of Landen, where it was employed in several military operations until 1697, when it returned to England. During the early part of the war of the Spanish succession the regiment was stationed in Ireland; but, it being found necessary to have a small army on the frontiers of Portugal, the 5th, with some others, was sent out upon that service; and while there took part in the battle of Caya, in the capture of Xeres de los Caballeros, and subsequently embarking for Gibraltar took part in the protection of that fortress. Here the regiment remained in garrison fifteen years, and it became as celebrated for its excellent conduct in time of peace as it had been distinguished for its noble bearing and gallantry in war. Towards the end of 1726 Spain resolved upon a siege of the fortress, which gave the 5th another opportunity of signalling itself. In 1758 it proceeded on an expedition—designed to effect a reduction in the maritime power of France, and to make a diversion in favour of the Hanoverians—to St. Malo's, where the united force succeeded in totally destroying a valuable fleet of shipping, stores, &c. They then proceeded to Cherbourg, which they captured; and the harbour, forts, magazines, and ordnance were destroyed. In 1760 the regiment proceeded to Germany, and while there engaged in a skirmish at Corbach, the Battle of Warburg, the surprise at Zierenberg, a skirmish at Campen; the Battle of Kirch-Denkern, where it again distinguished itself, in forcing the enemy's posts at Capelnhagen; in some skirmishes at Eimbeck and Foorwohle, and in the Battle of Grobenstein, which took place in the woods of Wilhelmsthal. In the latter, said a despatch of the time, "the 5th behaved nobly, and took twice its own number of prisoners." Its conduct on this occasion excited much admiration; as a mark of distinction the regiment for many years afterwards wore a fusilier's cap instead of the hat then used by the majority of the Line. After being engaged in several other minor affairs, the regiment returned to England, and thence proceeded to Ireland, where it remained for ten years, and was so remarkable for cleanliness and attention to dress and appointments that the men were usually called "The Shiners." Early in the year 1767, a system of honorary distinction for long-continued good behaviour was introduced into the regiment. These distinctions consisted of three classes of medals, bearing on one side the badge of the regiment, St. George and the Dragon, with the motto, "Quo fata vocant," and on the reverse, "5th Foot, Merit." On Nov. 7, 1768, Lieutenant-General Hodgson was succeeded in the colonelcy of the regiment by Hugh, Earl Percy, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, who, duly estimating the good effects produced by this regimental "Order of Merit," kept it with all the liberality and dignity it deserved. The regiment remained in Ireland until the unfortunate misunderstanding between Great Britain and her North American colonies assumed an aspect so formidable that it was deemed necessary to send additional forces to that country; and the 5th was one of the corps selected to proceed on this service, and, amongst other engagements, took part in that at Bunker's Hill; in reference to which General Burgoyne in a letter to Lord Derby, said "The 5th behaved best and suffered most." They subsequently took part in the reduction of Long Island, the action at White Plains, the capture of Forts Washington and Lee, the reduction of New Jersey, and other actions. Among these we must not omit to mention the expedition of a small detachment, of which the 5th formed part, against the island of St. Lucia. The loss of the French in this engagement was 400 killed and 1100 wounded; whilst the killed on the side of the British was only ten, and 130 wounded. During the next two years the regiment was engaged in several actions in the West Indies, and in the latter end of 1780 returned to England, whence it embarked again for Ireland, and arrived at Cork in January, 1781. In 1784 the regiment lost a distinguished leader, a powerful patron, and an attached and sincere friend by the promotion of Earl Percy to the colonelcy of the second troop of Horse Grenadier Guards. The 5th had been his first command; he had held that command sixteen years, including the whole of the American war of independence, and in compliment to him the regiment had received the denomination (which it still retains) of the "Northumberland" Regiment. Earl Percy was succeeded by Major-General the Hon. Edward Stopford, Lieutenant-Colonel of the 66th Foot, his commission as Colonel of the 5th being dated Nov. 1, 1784. The colours of the 5th being worn out by time and numerous honourable perforations received in action, a new set was presented to it, with the usual solemnities, on St. George's Day, 1785, in the parish church of Belfast, where the regiment was then stationed. The 5th remained in Ireland until May 24, 1787, when it embarked for Canada, and reached Quebec on July 26. After taking part in several small engagements in Lower Canada, it returned to England in 1797; and, having recruited in Lincolnshire, the regiment in 1799, being then in a high state of efficiency, was ordered to form part of the expedition sent out with the view of delivering Holland from the power of France, and acquitted itself in such a gallant manner as to gain the warm encomiums of the Duke of York and Prince William (afterwards William IV.). On its arrival in England, in the latter end of the same year, it was ordered out to Gibraltar, where it remained till the Peace of Amiens, in 1803, when it returned to England. The first battalion in the next year did some good service in the defence of Hanover, and subsequently in South America, where, in 1807, it took

part in the attack on Buenos Ayres, and distinguished itself with its usual bravery, returning to Cork in December of that year. And this brings us to, perhaps, the most important era in the history of the regiment—viz., as to the part it took in

THE PENINSULAR WAR.

In the summer of 1808, the first battalion, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel John Mackenzie, was ordered to proceed to the aid of the Portuguese in their resistance to the power of Bonaparte. It landed in Portugal on the 9th of August, and immediately joined the army of Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Wellesley. In the action at Roleia, on the 17th of the same month, it was one of the few corps whom circumstances and the nature of the ground permitted to come to actual engagement with the enemy; and so well did the men of the 5th distinguish themselves that day that they were not only highly complimented by Sir Arthur Wellesley, but also received the Royal permission to have the word "Roleia" inscribed on their colours. In the subsequent Battle of Vimiera, on the 21st of the same month, they similarly distinguished themselves, and were similarly honoured with permission to inscribe the word "Vimiera" on their colours. These successes being followed by the convention of Cintra and the evacuation of Portugal by the French, the 5th was ordered to Lisbon, where it remained several weeks; but was afterwards (in the autumn) sent up the country to assist the Spaniards in their resistance to the armies of France. Here it took its full share in the disasters and privations of the retreat from Sahagum to Corunna, where it arrived in time to take part in that action; and again its conduct was of so meritorious a character that it acquired another inscription for its colours, "Corunna" being by Royal permission borne upon them. The first battalion then returned to England, and proceeded on the Walcheren expedition. In the mean time a detachment of the regiment, left in Portugal when the first battalion advanced into Spain, had been added to a battalion of detachments, and were warmly engaged in the Battle of Talavera, on the 27th and 28th of July, for which the commanding officer received a medal. Meanwhile the second battalion embarked at Cork, and arrived at Lisbon on the 4th of July, and on the 3rd of August marched to join the army in the field under Sir Arthur Wellesley and take its share in the subsequent operations of the campaign. In the following year the second battalion formed part of the third division of the army—Lord Wellington making a stand, for the purpose of repulsing the enemy, on the rocks of Basaco; and for the gallant conduct of the battalion on that occasion the word "Basaco" was authorised to be inscribed on the colours of the regiment. After the Lord Wellington retired to the celebrated lines of Torres Vedras, in which stupendous works the second battalion of the 5th passed the remainder of the year. The second battalion having subsequently taken part in the affair at Redinha, and in the battles of Sabugal and Fuentes d'Onor, it was detached to the south to join the forces under Marshal Beresford, and was employed in the second siege of Badajoz, where it was one of the first corps to break ground. It was afterwards employed in the blockade of Ciudad Rodrigo; and the second battalion of the 5th so distinguished itself that its conduct was held up in general orders as an example to the whole army. The first operation, in 1812, was the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo; in the storming of the whole fortress the second battalion of the 5th had another glorious opportunity of distinguishing itself and earning one more honourable inscription for its regimental colours. Lord Wellington now undertook, for the third time, the siege of Badajoz, and on the 16th of March the second battalion of the 5th, with the remainder of Sir Thomas Picton's division, crossed the Guadiana, and took up its position in the investing force. After a severe engagement the castle was nobly won, and the grenadiers of the 5th had the honour of having led the successful escalade, under circumstances which gave an interesting character to this daring exploit. In reward and commemoration of its services on this occasion the word "Badajoz" is by authority borne on the colours. After the capture of Badajoz the second battalion accompanied the army towards the north of Portugal and into Spain, where it remained until after the Battle of Salamanca. During this period the first battalion, which had embarked at Cork in May, landed at Lisbon and joined the army after the 20th of July, the two battalions thus becoming united in time for the whole regiment to share in the honour and triumphs of the 22nd of July, 1812, the glorious victory of Salamanca; the good conduct of the regiment in general being rewarded by authority to bear the word "Salamanca" inscribed on its colours. The loss of the second battalion in the brilliant but severe service in which it had been engaged for three years was so serious that on the arrival of the army in Madrid it was ordered to England to recruit its thinned ranks. The estimation in which this battalion was held by Lord Wellington will best be shown by the following extract from the general orders:—"The Commander of the Forces cannot part with the officers and non-commissioned officers of the second battalion of the 5th Regiment without again requesting them to accept his thanks for their uniform good conduct and brilliant and important services since they have been under his command." On the 16th of May, 1813, the first battalion broke up from its cantonments and advanced with the rest of the army into Spain, and took part in the memorable and decisive Battle of Vittoria, where it displayed its usual spirit and intrepidity, driving in a superior force of the enemy in gallant style; and for these and other services it was authorised to bear the word "Vittoria" upon the colours of the regiment. It afterwards took part in the battles of the Pyrenees, and, subsequently crossing the frontiers with the now victorious British army, was engaged in the Battle of Nivelle, where its usual gallant conduct earned a medal for its Lieutenant-Colonel and permission for the word "Nivelle" to be borne on its colours. The battalion also took part in the Battle of Orthes; and, finally, in the Battle of Toulouse, the closing struggle and crowning victory of the Peninsular War, on which occasion the first battalion behaved with its usual gallantry; its commanding officer received medals for Orthes and Toulouse, and, by authority, the names of those battles were inscribed upon its colours; the regiment also, in reward and commemoration of its services throughout the Peninsular War, received permission, by authority, to inscribe, in addition to its other distinctions, the word "Peninsula" upon its colours.

A MEMORIAL to Lord Palmerston is to be erected at Romsey, and a meeting to carry out the project was held on Tuesday. It seems Lady Palmerston would wish the memorial to be a figure of the late Lord placed in a mortuary chapel in Romsey Abbey. Several of those who propose to subscribe to the monument wish that it should be a statue in the open air. In all probability, however, the wish of Lady Palmerston will be carried into effect.

MINISTERIAL ENTERTAINMENTS.—The Ministerial dinners preparatory to the opening of Parliament will take place on Monday, the 5th proximo, the day before the delivery of the Queen's Speech, and not on Wednesday, the 31st inst., the day before the meeting of both Houses. Earl Russell will entertain the Peers of his party at his official residence in Downing-street, which is being renovated with a view to the Ministerial hospitalities. The house has not been used for social purposes for, we believe, some twelve or fourteen years; Lord Palmerston, we need not say, saw his friends at Cambridge House; and it wants a great deal of freshening up to make it fit for the reception of fashionable company.

NEW LIFE-BOAT.—The National Life-boat Institution has just forwarded to Worthing a fine new life-boat, 32 ft. long and 7 ft. 4 in. wide, rowing ten oars, double banked, to replace the present small life-boat on that station. The new boat possesses the usual valuable properties peculiar to the boats of this institution—viz., self-righting, self-relief of water, &c. A commodious and substantial house has been built for the reception of the life-boat, her stores, and baggage, from designs furnished by C. H. Cooke, Esq., of 11, John-street, Bedford-row, the honorary architect of the society. The cost of the life-boat station had been munificently presented to the institution by a lady who had previously given the institution the cost of two life-boats. The life-boat was publicly launched at Worthing, on Tuesday, the 23rd inst. A free conveyance was readily given to the life-boat and carriage to Worthing by the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company. Much credit is due to W. H. Bennett, Esq. (honorary secretary of the branch), and other gentlemen, for their valuable co-operation in assisting in the renovation of this life-boat establishment, and in obtaining contributions for its future support. The National Life-boat Institution has now 153 life-boat establishments under its charge, nineteen of which boats are stationed on the coasts of Sussex, Hampshire, Kent, and the Isle of Wight.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1866.

COMMERCIAL MORALITY.

FALSTAFF doubted whether there was any valour extant in his day; and we may well question the existence of commercial honesty in these times. Some men seem incapable of learning the trite truth, that honesty is the best policy. These persons are in such a hurry to get rich that they cannot take, to become so, the slow but sure process of fair dealing; and so often both miss their mark and make wreck of their reputation. In order to secure large profits, every commodity is adulterated, or is made of inferior materials, or is of short measure. All is seeming; nought is truth. Appearances only are studied, not realities. The poor seamstress buys a "reel of cotton;" and, if she takes the trouble to measure it, finds that she is defrauded of a fourth of the "warranted" quantity. The labourer's wife purchases her week's or day's supply of groceries, and gets sloe-leaves in her tea, ground horse-beans (in addition to chicory) in her coffee, sand in her sugar, and brickdust in her pepper. The baker mixes potatoes and alum with his flour; the dairyman waters his milk; the publican "doctors" his beer; the tobaccoist sells more of the produce of the cabbage-garden than of the plantations of Virginia; the shipbuilder uses unsound timber, inferior iron, and bad workmanship; the erector of our dwellings "runs up" such wretched "shells" that an extra puff of wind often knocks them down even before they are finished, or, if they escape that contingency, they freely allow cold and wet to permeate them. Everybody, in fact, cheats everybody else, reckless of the consequences of his villany to health, and life, and comfort.

These, however, are old evils to which we have by long endurance become accustomed, if not reconciled. A new species of wholesale fraud has just been brought to light. Cotton goods and hardware are two of the main staple manufactures for export in England. The character of British cutlery has long been at a low ebb all the world over. "Sheffield whittles" no longer bear the repute for excellence that they did in the days of Wamba the son of Witless. Hatchets, saws, knives, tools of all kinds, are now made on the principle of the countryman's razors—to sell, not for use. We once had a reputation for excellence in the fabrication of these articles; but the glory has departed from Birmingham and Sheffield. "Brummagem ware" has become a synonym for shams. And it seems that the same evil repute is about to be brought upon the goods of Manchester, Rochdale, Preston, Glasgow, and the other seats of the cotton-manufacturing industry. If this should happen, it will be a worse calamity than the cotton famine or the rinderpest.

Raw cotton, as all the world knows, has been scarce, and therefore dear, of late years. And to be enabled to produce a "cheap" article, certain manufacturers have adopted a system of "high glazing"—that is, stiffening inferior fabrics in order to make a bad appear a decent article. Not content with this, however, they even employ bad and deleterious substances in the process. We will not trouble our readers with details of the chemical abominations that are mechanically pressed into the fibre of the manufactured article; but the consequences (with which the consumer is most concerned) are that the cloths are clogged with salts and other moisture-attracting and absorbent substances, that they cannot resist dampness, that mildew and rot get into them, and that such goods, when they reach the consumer's hands, are damaged, and next to worthless. This is the condition in which large quantities of British cottons have of late been found when unpacked in India, China, and elsewhere; and the old character for superiority of English goods is being fast undermined.

The cause of the mischief was at first a mystery, and various explanations of the phenomena were given. A committee of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce recently investigated the matter, and have exposed the fraud. The fault does not lie in the packing, it does not result from bad stowage or leaky ships: it is in the materials used in preparing the fabrics for the market. The source of the mischief being thus laid bare, cannot the perpetrators also be exposed? It must be easy to trace a bale of mildewed cottons back through all the parties in whose hands they have been up to the fraudulent manufacturer, and then—make his name public. This would at once put the saddle on the right horse—for we cannot believe that all manufacturers are equally guilty—check

the practice, and save the reputation of the honest British manufacturer—a matter of the very utmost importance to the well-being of the country.

England has no longer a monopoly of the markets of the world. Other countries are developing their resources and are entering into a keen competition with us for the custom of mankind. We cannot afford to let our character for honesty be filched from us by greedy knaves who have neither honour, honesty, nor patriotism in them. If we do, we shall speedily find ourselves shut out from the world's markets; our national reputation will become a byword and reproach among the peoples; and where will be our boasted prosperity then? The mischief may not be thoroughly and fully consummated for years, but, come it slow or come it fast, bankruptcy in wealth will surely follow bankruptcy in honesty and reputation. Exposure is the best cure for the evil; but to be effectual it must be prompt. Let the Manchester committee, and committees representing honest manufacturers everywhere, follow up the inquiry till the knaves are detected; and, when certainly detected, let them be exposed, irrespective of consequences. Some actions for libel may probably be instituted, for your rogue is ever fond of making a show of appeal to the law. But such actions could easily be defended, and even penalties paid, out of a common fund subscribed for the purpose by those who have a character to lose, and who would find this a cheap means of defending the reputation of themselves and of their country's industry. There should be no shrinking because of threats. The honest men, we hope, are more numerous, and therefore stronger, than the knaves; but, even if it be otherwise, honesty in such a war would be sure to beat knavery in the end. Let the experiment be tried. There need be no fear of the result. Our national reputation should be vindicated, and the nation's customers, both at home and abroad, protected, at any cost.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN was sponsor, by proxy, to the infant daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Emily Peel, which was baptised on Wednesday.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN gave birth to a Prince on Wednesday evening.

PRINCE OTTO, third son of the King of Italy, died, at Genoa, on Monday.

HER MAJESTY has been pleased to grant an allowance of £300 a year to Lady Eastlake.

HERR VON AUERSWALD, formerly Prussian Minister of State, died on Monday.

THE MARQUIS OF NORMANBY is likely to move the Address in the Lords in reply to the Queen's Speech; it will be seconded by Lord Morley.

THE EARL OF DERBY, as the leader of the Conservative party, will give a Parliamentary entertainment, on the 5th of next month, at his residence in St. James's-square, to a party of about thirty Opposition Peers.

MR. JOHN GIBSON, the eminent sculptor, who was reported to have died, had, on the 19th inst., somewhat rallied from his late attack of apoplexy.

A BARONETCY HAS BEEN CONFERRED UPON DR. JOHN DOMINIC CORRIGAN, M.R.I.A., the learned ex-President of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland, Physician in Ireland to the Queen, and Physician to the Lord Lieutenant.

SIR CHARLES WOOD has intimated to the ecclesiastical authorities that he intends, in the first Session of the new Parliament, to introduce a bill for the erection of a bishopric of Lahore.

SIR GEORGE GREY has appointed Mr. Adams, of the Midland Circuit, to the recordership of Birmingham, vacant in consequence of the resignation of Mr. M. D. Hill.

CAPTAIN A. G. REMINGTON, of the late 12th Native Infantry, has become a fakier; he was permitted to resign his commission.

THE RECEIVER OF WRECKS has furnished the Board of Trade with a list of nearly 400 ships lost on our coasts during the recent gales.

COLONEL MACLEAN, Lieutenant-Governor of Natal, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of British Kaffraria, died on Nov. 17.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SEINE spends 350,000*fr.* a year in confining debtors whose debts do not amount to a total of 245,000*fr.*

THE GRAND PRIZE OF £60,000 in the lottery annually drawn at Madrid has this year been gained by a rich Havannah merchant, who held tickets to the value of £1600.

A GREAT PUBLIC MEETING of the farmers of England and others who are in favour of the reduction and eventual repeal of the malt duty will be held on the 5th of February at Freemasons' Hall.

A STATUE OF MR. JOSEPH LOCKE, the eminent engineer, was inaugurated at Barnsley, on Thursday week, by Lord Alfred Paget, with great ceremony.

FROGMORE HOUSE, which, it is expected, will be the future home of Prince Christian and Princess Helena, has lately been much improved, and it is reported that fresh improvements are contemplated.

MR. BENJAMIN, ex-Secretary of the Confederate States, is studying English law in the chambers of Mr. C. E. Pollock, in the Temple, with the view of being called to the English Bar.

THE MONKS of the Convent of St. Catherine, on Mount Sinai, have recently mutilated, and imprisoned their Archbishop. The Viceroy of Egypt has sent troops to restore order.

A POLICEMAN was set upon by a mob of ruffians in Drury-lane, on Saturday night, and so seriously injured that he died on Tuesday morning.

CAPTAIN RAPHAEL SEMMES, of the Alabama, is now the only prisoner in the old Capitol at Washington, which, during the past year, contained at various times 13,500 state prisoners.

THE COUNTESS OF CASTELNAU has announced to the Academy of Sciences that the cause of cholera is a "winged leech," of microscopic size, originating in marshy ground, and she offers to produce a few specimens of it.

ADMIRAL PAREJA, the Spanish commander in the Pacific, has destroyed himself in a fit of despondency, caused partly by ill-health, but more directly by the capture of the Covadonga by the Chilean corvette Esmeralda.

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT intends to invite the leading botanists and horticulturalists who are going to assemble in London in May next to hold their meeting for 1867 in St. Petersburg.

THE INMATES of the debtors' prison at Brussels have founded a newspaper, with the object of persuading the public that imprisonment for debt should not exist in a free country. The paper is entitled *Journal des Dénusés*, and its first number appeared on Jan. 1.

A YOUNG LADY AND GENTLEMAN, recently inmates of the Colney Hatch Asylum, formed an attachment while confined there, and, despite much vigilance, carried on a written correspondence. They both recovered; and, on leaving the asylum, were married.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER has intimated that it is the intention of the Government to submit to Parliament the assimilation of the duty on bottled wines to the duty on wines in wood—that is, there will be one uniform rate of duty of 1*s.* per gallon upon all wines.

FRANKFORT-ON-MAINE is to be supplied with a thorough system of drainage in the English style. The civil engineers engaged by the municipality to superintend the works are Messrs. W. Lindley, of London, and T. Gordon, of Carlisle.

A SAILOR NAMED GALL, forty years of age, who had just come home from a long voyage, committed suicide, on Friday week, by hanging himself. Jealousy at finding that an old sweetheart had been married in the interim, had become a widow, and now favoured another, was the cause.

M. FRANTZ, a metallurgist, and M. Menri Faure, editor of the *France Medicale*, have just announced to the learned world that they have discovered a method for transmuting silver, copper, and mercury into gold, "which," they say, "are only one and the same metal in different dynamic states."

THE SUBSCRIPTION to the testimonial to Mr. J. W. Macaire, hon. secretary to the Central Relief Committee, now amounts to upwards of £6000. The subscription list will be closed on the 35th. A piece of plate will be purchased with part of the money, and the inscription upon it will probably be furnished by the Earl of Derby.

A VAST DEPOSIT OF CRYSTALLISED GYPSUM has been found in the Nevada, which embraces part of the mountain region between Utah and California. The gypsum is found in large blocks, easily broken into perfect cubes, admirably adapted, it is stated, for building purposes, where strong interior light is required.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

HONOUR and conscience are certainly inconvenient things to newspaper correspondents. The man that has them not has an immense temporary advantage over him who has them. Many, many times I could have given your readers interesting intelligence; but had to forbear because I overheard it, or because I received it in confidence, or because I felt that it would not be fair to publish it abroad. You and I, when we read the papers in the *Pall Mall Gazette* headed "A Casual in a Workhouse," guessed at once who wrote them; but then, without his consent, had we any right to divulge his name? I at once, though I knew that your readers would like to know the name of the brave man who had at the cost of so much suffering done the State such service, decided that I had no right to publish it. "He wishes to remain unknown," said I, "and it would be unkind to inflict upon him the penalty of a publicity which would be painful to him." Besides, if left alone, if nobody tears the hood of his domino from his face, he may do the State still more service; for we must not think that the casual ward of Lambeth Workhouse is the only dark place in the metropolis that needs the light of our friend's bull's-eye to be turned upon it. There are many casual and other wards, the management of which is anything but what it should be. Indeed, the whole of our metropolitan poor-law administration needs overhauling; and I believe that exposures like that which the *Pall Mall Gazette's* correspondent has given to the public will not only rouse up the Poor-Law Board to undertake the necessary reform; but, what is still more needed, will strengthen its hands in Parliament, and enable it to obtain the necessary powers. Mr. Villiers has long been conscious that the metropolitan poor-law management is a disgrace to his department, and has anxiously desired to reform it. But how to do it with eighteen metropolitan members, including those for Middlesex, all on the Government side of the house, and all more or less under the influence of Bumbledom—that was the question. Preparatory to the passing of the new poor law, Commissioners were sent into every part of the country to make searching investigation and to collect facts; and I have heard it suggested that Government should adopt this plan for ascertaining the real state of the poor-law management in the metropolis. Meanwhile let the *Pall Mall Gazette's* correspondent go on with his work, if he be so disposed, without let or hindrance, no impertinent newspaper correspondent or others intruding upon his privacy. My own opinion upon the subject of metropolitan poor-law mismanagement is this: The main cause of the mischief is the size of the unions. To manage well a union like that of Lambeth is simply impossible. It requires powers of organisation which are not to be found in one man in a hundred thousand. A faculty to organise is nearly akin to genius. Some of the greatest men that ever lived had none of it. The illustrious James Watt, for example, had no power to organise; whereas, before the genius of Matthew Boulton chaos itself would resolve itself into order. The first thing, then, to be done is to reduce the size of our metropolitan unions; and until this be done good management will be impossible. Let Mr. Villiers take a note of this. Divide and conquer, right honourable Sir!

The *Sunday Gazette* tells us that her Majesty, through Earl Russell, has offered to make Lady Palmerston a Peeress in her own right—said peerage to descend to her second son, the Right Hon. William Cowper, and that her Ladyship has refused the honour, "being quite contented with the distinction of being the widow of Lord Palmerston." Now, I doubt the truth of this story, as here told. And as to the reason alleged to have been given for the refusal of the peerage, that is absurd. Lady Palmerston, if she were to accept the peerage would still be Lady Palmerston, and still enjoy the distinction of being Lord Palmerston's widow. The only difference would be this: as matters stand, the title and name of Palmerston will be at her death extinct; but, if she were to accept the peerage, the name and title would be perpetuated. It is possible that the offer has been made and refused; but, if so, depend upon it that the cause of refusal was something very different to that which has been given. I have heard that it is probable Mr. Cowper will be made Lord Something, but not Lord Palmerston; and one can easily conceive that the right hon. gentleman would deem it had taste to take to himself so famous a name. The man who seeks to wear the honours of Ulysses should be able to shoot with Ulysses' bow.

Before the appearance of your next paper Parliament will have assembled, and chosen its Speaker, got the assent of her Majesty to its choice, and sworn in some hundreds of its members. The swearing-in will continue solely to occupy the House until the 6th, and then the curtain will lift and the great drama will begin. Mr. Monsell will move the re-election of Mr. Denison to the Speaker's chair. The appointment of Mr. Monsell to this duty is a slight recognition of the service which he did to the Government last year, in moving so opportunely his Roman Catholic Oaths Bill. Bringing forward that bill was a fine stroke of policy. The bill was not carried through the Lords; Mr. Monsell never dreamed that it would be. But, though defeated, it did yeoman's service. It brought the Conservative members to the test. For several years past they had been coquetting with the Roman Catholics, and, through the clever moves of Mr. Hennessy and others, had really gained considerable reputation in Ireland as the real friends of the Roman Catholics. Suddenly Mr. Monsell put their friendship into the crucible. "You are our friends, are you? Is your friendship worth our release from these ignominious oaths?" The answer was, no; and straightway the bubble which Hennessy and others had blown burst, and the Government strength in Ireland, instead of being reduced to nothing, as Hennessy fondly hoped it would be, increased. By-the-way, I hear that Mr. Monsell is to have some substantial reward in shape of a place in the Ministry, when one can be found for him. Perhaps he will be sent to the Board of Trade as Vice-President. There is an Irish lordship of the Treasury still vacant; but, of course, he would not condescend to that; for he has held higher places, and is one of her Majesty's Privy Council.

I have been carefully looking over the list of new members; and, as far as I know the men, taking their measure. Of course there are many about whom I am ignorant, but amongst those that I do know, I have found, after due sifting, I think, a select few who will, by their intellectual power, and, what is better, their earnestness, impart a new character to the House of Commons. Well, the number of the elect is but small. The mass, I fear, are mere commonplace men, who have no strong convictions, and had no purpose in getting themselves elected but that of adding the magical M.P. to their names, and associating with gentlemen in the best club in the world; or, it may be, of doing some stroke of business by means of that influence which a member of Parliament in many ways commands. Still there are, as I have said, a few earnest, honest, and able men—men who can think, and will loudly utter their thoughts; and will, notwithstanding that their number is small, healthily influence the House; for it is the thinker that influences—and, in the end, reader, governs—the world. This House, then, will prove, I think, better than the last. In truth, the last was not a good House, or rather it came at last not to be good. In its march it lost some of its best men. Very early it lost Sydney Herbert, who went to the House of Peers; and shortly afterwards died. In the same year (1861) Earl Russell took his flight. Two years after this Sir George Cornewall Lewis died; and, in 1865, Mr. Cobden vanished from our sight. These were very serious losses. "And this Parliament," I think I hear some reader say, "has lost Lord Palmerston—and what a loss is that!" Well, it is a loss; but I am not at all prepared to subscribe to all that has been said upon this subject. However, the noble Lord has but recently departed, and about him I will say no more than this: his greatest admirers will not say of him that he was a great thinker or distinguished by earnestness of purpose. This House, then, is an improvement upon the last, as it was when it was dismissed, and therefore let us rejoice and take courage. A Conservative politician, well known if I might name him, says that we have some very curious characters in the House. No doubt; we always have had. And some great blockheads, he says, which is also probably true. But, no matter; the "curious characters" will find

their level; and, as to the dullards, let us remember what a certain philosopher has said of them—"It is the everlasting privilege of fools to be governed by wise men."

You see I was right in doubting the truth of the assertion that Mr. Layard had resigned. I had no authority to contradict the report, nor even to doubt it; but I never believed it for a moment. That Mr. Layard was irritated by the appointment of Mr. Goschen to the Cabinet is likely. He is liable to be irritated, and to say in his irritation unwise words; but that he should childishly throw away a really good position because somebody else was appointed to a better, seemed to me to be very unlikely. Besides, Mr. Layard's sense of honour would not, I am persuaded, permit him to desert his chief and patron, Earl Russell, at this critical period. Mind you, there is no better authority, as far as I can learn, than mere rumour that Mr. Layard was irritated. And knowing that *Pall Mall* never produced so many canards in the space of two months as it has during the last two, I am disposed to believe that this rumour was hatched in that famous place.

A report (not official) has been published of the trial by court-martial of Mr. G. W. Gordon, in Jamaica. If all the evidence produced at the trial is given in this report it would seem utterly insufficient to warrant condemnation—at least, according to civilian notions of what evidence should be. I am sure no Court in this country would have condemned even a notorious thief to imprisonment on such proof. It is possible, however, that we have not got the whole story, as the report comes to us through avowed enemies of Governor Eyre and his subordinates.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

I have before me, in the pamphlet form, "A Night in a Workhouse," the series of articles lately published in the *Pall Mall Gazette*; and, calling attention to the republication of a very remarkable little story, I think this may not be a bad opportunity for saying a few words towards sketching the distinctive character of the *Gazette* itself.

To start with—the *Pall Mall Gazette*, conspicuously and decisively, is that which Mr. Bright is not. Each person will give that something a different name, perhaps; but, just where that great man misses his hold of the English mind, the *Gazette* has the firmest grip.

The *Gazette* is "Liberal," but its Liberalism is rather a concessive Constitutionalism than a mellowed Radicalism. In other words, a kind of Benthamised Conservatism, but cheerful and sociable in the highest degree.

It is a mistake to chaff it about being "genteel," about "two-penny blood-and-culture," and so on. No doubt, however, its literature is mainly the writing of Experts in different departments of thought. You may be sure of finding in the *Gazette* the latest thing that the best culture of the day has to say upon disputed subjects; the most advanced opinion which has got, or is in the way to get, a following. But, in spite of the boldness with which some subjects have been treated in its columns, it is in no sense an "organ" of adolescent or struggling thought. Boldness is usually a successful form of impressiveness when it can show "Corinthian" associations and yet does not threaten to disturb social order. The *Gazette* has been impressively and successfully bold.

The *Gazette*, again, is distinguished, even in these "humanitarian" days, by a certain tone of broad, hearty humanity, which in great part accounts for the welcome it has had. Nothing doctrinaire, but something like the flavour of a strong wine in a cask. Nearly all sorts of opinions (except opinions of the class misnamed "transcendental") have received editorial, or quasi-editorial, expression in the *Gazette*; but nothing alters this flavour of sociable, considerate humanity.

The air and manner of the *Gazette* are those of "good society." It sometimes contains, as I said before, instances of that curiously level, unrelieved writing which suggests not only that repression of "egotism" which good society will have, but also the want of impulse in the writer. The tendency of "good-society" writing is always either to cruelty, to persiflage, or to flatness. I don't mean want of cleverness or "points," but want of hopeful will.

In the foregoing hints there are some smaller features—and one most important feature—in the *Pall Mall Gazette* left quite unnoticed. But, indeed, the ability and obvious resources of this paper are so great, and have already made such an impression, that it is scarcely wise to treat any of its characteristics as unimportant.

I see that Messrs. Bradbury and Evans have commenced a cheap reissue of the "Arts and Sciences" division of "The English Cyclopædia," conducted by Mr. Charles Knight, to be followed by the other divisions of the work. This republication will place a valuable compilation within the reach of all, and will be a great boon to students. Could not a paper of slightly better quality and colour have been given?

THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

A special interest is attached to the new farce "Lending a Hand," which was produced, on Monday last, at the STRAND, inasmuch as it is the first dramatic work of Mr. Gilbert & Beckett, the eldest son of the late eminent comic writer. Mr. & Beckett is favourably known as a contributor to the principal magazines, and I may congratulate him upon having made a successful debut in a new branch of light literature. "Lending a Hand" is a clever, bustling little farce, written with a full appreciation of all the fun of which the different "situations" are capable. Mr. Matthew Muddles (Mr. H. Turner) is anxious to distinguish himself in the eyes of a blooming widow, Mrs. Lucretia Pipeclay (Miss Maria Simpson). An opportunity soon presents itself, for Mr. Felix Flashpan (Mr. Belford) throws himself from Putney Bridge, and Mr. Muddles rescues him—with a boat-hook, it is true, but still he rescues him. Unfortunately, Mr. Flashpan is anything but grateful for this important service; he abuses Mr. Muddles roundly for his impertinent interference, and declares that, as Muddles has saved him, Muddles must keep him. Mr. Flashpan loves, and is loved by, Lydia (Miss Hughes), a pretty milliner; and he so contrives that Mr. Muddles is discovered by the jealous Mrs. Pipeclay under circumstances which induce her to suppose that he has been carrying on an intrigue with the attractive Lydia. Altogether, Mr. Flashpan becomes such a nuisance that Mr. Muddles is fain to offer him five hundred pounds to go and marry Lydia. Eventually the suspicious circumstances under which Mrs. Pipeclay discovers Mr. Muddles and Lydia are explained away, and all parties are reconciled. The piece was very favourably received, and a call was raised for the author, to which, however, he did not respond.

"Pipkins's Rustic Retreat," which was produced at the ADELPHI last week, is valuable only as a means of affording Mr. Toole an opportunity of giving a most masterly representation of abject terror. Mr. Pipkins, a gentleman with a taste for bargains, has purchased for fifty pounds a "Rustic Retreat" which has been for three years in Chancery. During those three years it has been occupied by some nomadic artists; and one of them, Mr. Salvator Roesa Robinson, feeling aggrieved at Pipkins's intrusion, endeavours to frighten him out of his newly-purchased estate by representing that it is a haunt of a gang of murderers. Probably a more remarkable representation of hopeless, helpless terror than that with which poor Pipkins is affected has never been witnessed on the stage. It is really a pity that Mr. Toole is allowed to play only in opening and concluding farces.

THE GUARDIANS OF LAMBETH.—At the last meeting of the guardians of Lambeth the correspondence relative to the employment of the police as assistant relieving officers was taken into consideration, and it was agreed that the advice of the Poor-Law Board in this matter should be followed. Two inspectors and two sergeants of police have accordingly been appointed by Sir Richard Mayne, at the request of the guardians, and they will grant the tickets for admission into the workhouse applied for under the Houseless Poor Act. The letters of the "Amateur Casual" will be productive of some practical results, it is expected, and the first is seen in the fact that the guardians have under consideration the propriety of appointing a paid officer to superintend the casual wards. The duty of such an officer will be to maintain order in the wards by night, to see that the bath-water is changed after every person, and that a labour-test is exacted from every able-bodied casual who receives relief.

THE LATE WILLIAM HARVEY.

In the "Lounge" column of our last week's Number a brief tribute was paid to the memory of the late William Harvey, engraver and designer in wood. We now publish a Portrait of the steamed artist, and subjoin the following particulars of his career from "Men of the Time":—William Harvey was born at Newcastle-on-Tyne about the year 1800, and served an apprenticeship as a wood-engraver with Thomas Bewick. In 1817 he came to London, and in a short time afterwards became a pupil of B. R. Haydon, the historical painter, with a view of improving himself in drawing, and of thus further qualifying himself for the profession of a designer on wood. While studying under Haydon he drew and engraved his large cut of the "Death of Dentatus," from a painting by his master; this admirable cut was published in 1821. In 1824 Harvey drew and engraved his beautiful vignettes and tail-pieces in Dr. Henderson's "History of Ancient and Modern Wines." With those cuts he may be considered as having closed his career as an engraver, and to have entered on that of a designer on wood. In the latter capacity, perhaps no other artist has furnished more employment for wood-engravers. Among the numerous works illustrated by him (which our limits do not enable us to enumerate), the following specially deserve favourable mention:—"Northcote's Fables," first and second series; "The Tower Menagerie;" "The Gardens and Menagerie of the Zoological Society;" White's "Selborne;" Lane's "Arabian Nights;" the illustrated edition of the "Common Prayer;" and Charles Knight's "Pictorial Shakespeare."

THE TRIAL OF PONCET.

We are accustomed to reproach ourselves with that exhibition of morbid sensationalism which leads to such an unhealthy interest in all the details of the daily life of a condemned convict, and tendency to make a celebrity of the scoundrel who has set all human laws at defiance. It is perhaps little consolation to those who regret this phase of our social life, to learn that our neighbours are little better than ourselves; for the scene represented in our Engraving affords ample evidence that the Parisian public are infected with the same sentimental disorder. This scene took place at the Court of Assize, at Versailles, during the trial of Poncet, the murderer of M. Lavergne. Poncet is a criminal who has regularly graduated in villany, and has also succeeded in escaping from two or three prisons, as well as from Cayenne, where he passed for some time a wretched existence in the unhealthy swamps, where he had buried the companion of his flight. At length he was compelled to give himself up at the Penitentiary, and received sixty or seventy lashes, under which the most intrepid ruffians regularly faint. Poncet took this punishment with sarcastic laughter, and, after a temporary penance, during which he committed all sorts of extravagancies to avoid the usual punishments of refractory prisoners, succeeded in once more making his escape. He passed seven hours in the sea, and was at last picked up by an American vessel and taken to New York, where it was said he served in the Federal army. Immediately on his return to Paris, with a decent stock of clothes and a little money, he visited his native village of Gennevilliers, and went thence to Enghien, where he is quite well known, and occupied himself in a series of visits to his old acquaintances; and, dressing with scrupulous

THE LATE WILLIAM HARVEY, ENGRAVER AND DESIGNER ON WOOD.
(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY J. AND C. WATKINS.)



neatness, as well as keeping on good terms with those about him, he was taken for a person of some importance. Only a day before he commenced this new career he had consummated his crimes by a dastardly murder, for which he is now condemned to death.

On the journey to Dieppe he had made the acquaintance of a M. Lavergne, an old gentleman who had made the voyage from London, where he had previously arranged his affairs, and, as it would now appear, had some sort of presentiment of approaching death, since he had made a will before undertaking his journey in which occur the remarkable words—"in case I should die before the 9th of October."

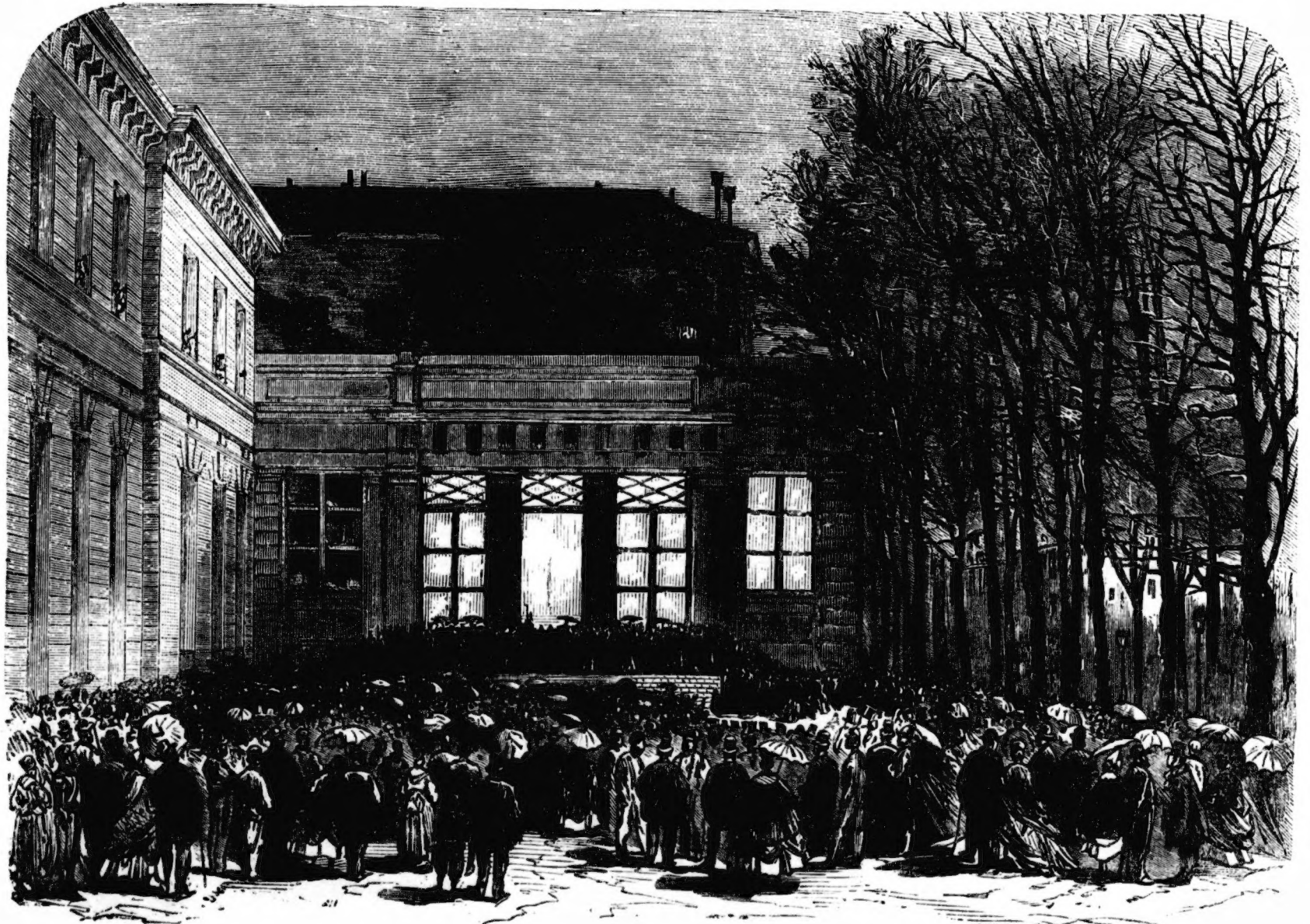
On the 4th of October Poncet and his victim went to-

gether to an hotel, where the former ordered supper and made himself remarkably agreeable. On the following day the ex-convict called upon his new acquaintance, and they were seen together by several persons who could recognise Poncet; amongst them the coachman who was hired to drive to Argenteuil, on the journey to which they stopped twice on the road. That same evening Poncet went to a ball, where he lost no opportunity of exhibiting a watch which had belonged to M. Lavergne; he even called attention to the fact of its being of English make, and to show that it was a repeater caused it to strike the hour. The owner of the watch then lay with his throat cut in the woods near Argenteuil. The conduct of the murderer was evidently intended to disarm all suspicion, since he would naturally argue that any such exhibition would be totally at variance with the supposition of guilt. All this came out at the trial, where, however, the villain himself endeavoured by every artifice to brazen out his accusers, and changed his tone from sarcasm to mock eloquence and to protestations of innocence, as suited the purpose of the moment. Such was the excitement before the trial that a large number of people made excursions to the scene of the murder, and photographs of the wretched prisoner were at a premium.

THE LOSS OF THE STEAM-SHIP LONDON.

THE SHIP AND THE WRECK.

The London, which has been commanded ever since she was launched from Blackwall yard, in 1864, by Captain Martin, an Australian navigator of great experience, left the East India Docks on Thursday, the 28th of December, and, dropping down to Gravesend, sailed thence on the following Saturday afternoon, under charge of Mr. Thompson, a river pilot. As the night was wild and the wind dead ahead, the ship brought up at the Nore, and lay there during the whole of the succeeding day. There were two clergymen on board—the Rev. Dr. Woolley, President of University College, Sydney (and not Bishop of that see, as formerly stated); and the Rev. Mr. Draper, who had been to England as a representative of the Australian Wesleyan Conference; and both of them took part in the usual Sunday services. At daybreak on Monday, the 1st of January, the anchor was weighed, and the ship steamed down Channel, still against a head wind, but making fair way. As the ship ran down Channel the wind rose and the sea increased, and a couple of hours after passing the Needles the wind blew a gale right ahead, with a heavy sea rolling, which continued all the way to Plymouth, where the ship arrived about noon on Thursday, the 4th inst. A sad casualty occurred here. A pilot-cutter put off a small boat, having on board the pilot and his assistant, to bring the London inside the breakwater. When the boat was about 100 yards from the London a sea capsized her, and both the pilot and his assistant were thrown into the water. Captain Martin instantly ordered one of his life-boats to be lowered, and with great difficulty the assistant pilot was rescued, but the pilot was drowned. The London came to an anchorage inside the breakwater at one p.m., on the 4th instant, and during the afternoon took on board those of her passengers who had arranged to join at Plymouth. At midnight on Friday, the 5th, she proceeded on her voyage, the weather being at this time calm, with a light wind ahead. She had full steam on



SCENE OUTSIDE THE COURT-HOUSE AT VERSAILLES DURING THE DELIBERATION OF THE JURY IN THE PONCET CASE.



THE FOUNDERING OF THE STEAM-SHIP LONDON IN THE BAY OF BISCAY.

during the whole of Saturday, the 6th, and the voyage promised to progress very satisfactorily until Sunday morning, when the wind increased, and a head sea gradually rose. During Sunday night the wind increased to a gale, and the sea rose considerably. On the morning of Monday, the 8th, the ship was well clear of the land, and Captain Martin, having ordered the engines to be stopped, set his topsail, and so endeavoured to keep the ship moving slowly ahead. At eight a.m. on Tuesday, the 9th, while the captain was still endeavouring to keep the ship in her course by means of the screw, the violence of the gale carried away at one sweep the jib-boom, the foretopmast, the gallantmast, and the royalmast. These large spars were not wholly detached from the ship, but, hanging fast by the stays, swung to and fro with such violence that the crew were wholly unable to secure them. About two hours later the mainroyalmast was blown completely out of its socket, and added to the general wreck.

Captain Martin, who had not been in bed since the previous Sunday night, was not at all disheartened up to this moment; but, as the gale continued to increase during the morning, with a sea already running mountains high, the position of the ship was undoubtedly felt to be one of some peril. About three p.m. on Tuesday, the 9th, a tremendous sea struck her and carried the port life-boat clean away from the davits. All that evening, and through the succeeding night, the wind blew a very heavy gale and the sea ran very high, but the screw was still kept steaming easy ahead. At three a.m. on Wednesday, the 10th, Captain Martin sent for Mr. Greenhill, the chief engineer, and informed him of his intention to put the ship about and run for Plymouth, and he desired that full speed should be got up directly. This was immediately done. In half an hour after the ship's course had been altered she was again struck by a tremendous sea, which carried away the starboard life-boats, and the same sea stove in the starboard cutter. At noon on this day the ship's position was in lat. 46° 48' N., long. 8° 7' W. A very heavy cross sea was running, with the wind now dead astern of the ship, which caused her to roll heavily and much impeded her progress. But no danger was even now anticipated. At 10.33 p.m. on Wednesday, the ship still rolling deeply in a heavy cross sea, and the wind blowing a whole gale from the south-west, a mountain of water fell heavily over the waist of the ship, and spent its destructive force upon the main hatchway over the engine-room, completely demolishing this massive structure, measuring 12 ft. by 8 ft., and flooding with tons of water this portion of the ship. Not more than ten minutes after the hatchway had been destroyed, the water had risen above the furnaces, and up to the waists of the engineers and firemen employed in this part of the ship. The lower decks were also now flooded with the rush of waters the ship was continually taking in. The chief engineer remained at his post until the water had risen above his waist, when he went on deck and reported that his fires were out and his engines rendered useless. Captain Martin, with calm conviction remarked that he was not surprised; on the contrary, he had expected such a result. Finding his noble ship at length little more than a log on the water, Captain Martin immediately ordered his maintop-sail to be set, in the hope of keeping her before the wind. This difficult work had scarcely been accomplished when the force of the wind tore the sail into ribbons, with the exception of one corner, under which the ship lay to throughout the remainder of the night. The donkey-engine, supplied with steam by a boiler upon deck, and all the deck pumps were kept going throughout the night, and the passengers of all classes, now aroused to a sense of their imminent danger, shared with the crew their arduous labours. Notwithstanding every effort the water still gained upon the pumps, and the gale continuing at its height, cross seas with tremendous force were constantly breaking over the vessel, which at length succumbed to the unequal conflict. From this moment the motion of the ship was low and heavy, and she refused to rise to the action of the waves. At a quarter after four on Thursday morning she was struck by a stern sea, which carried away four of her stern ports, and admitted a flood of water through the breach.

From this time all efforts were useless, and at daybreak Captain Martin, whose cool intrepidity had never for a moment forsaken him, entered the cuddy, where all classes of the passengers had now taken refuge, and, responding to a universal appeal, calmly announced the cessation of all human hope. It is a remarkable fact that this solemn admission was solemnly received—a resigned silence prevailing throughout the assembly, broken only at brief intervals by the well-timed and appropriate exhortations of the Rev. Mr. Draper, whose spiritual services had been incessant during the previous twenty-four hours. At ten o'clock, the ship still rolling deeply, an attempt was made to launch the starboard pinnace, but a sea struck her just as she reached the water, and she sank, leaving a crew of five men struggling for their lives. As the ship was lying to, three of them managed to scramble up the sides of the ship, and the other two were rescued by ropes being thrown to them. After this the exhausted crew appeared indifferent to their fate, and no further effort at launching the remaining boats was made until one o'clock, when, the water having reached the main chains and the ship evidently settling down, the port pinnace was got over the ship's side. At this crisis Captain Martin, always at hand, addressing Mr. Greenhill, his chief engineer, under whose command this particular boat was rated, said, "There is not much chance in the boat. There is none for the ship. Your duty is done. Mine is to remain here. Get in and take the command of the few it will hold." Thus prompted, Mr. Greenhill, with his fellow-engineers and some few others, numbering only nineteen souls, among whom were three second-class passengers, quitted the ship, with merely a few biscuits in the shape of provisions, and not a drop of water. The pinnace had scarcely cleared the wake of the vessel, upon the poop of which upwards of fifty of the passengers were seen grouped, when a tremendous sea was seen to break over the doomed circle, who, when the ship rose slowly again, were discovered to have been swept into the surging waters. Another moment, and the vessel herself, settling down stern foremost, threw up her bows into the air and sank beneath the waves.

The pinnace, having no sails on board, could only keep afloat before the wind, and was repeatedly in danger of swamping. At daybreak a full-rigged cutter was observed at some distance, and, hoisting a shirt upon an oar, they endeavoured, but in vain, to attract attention. Shortly afterwards the Italian barque *Adrianople*, Captain Cavassa, bound with a cargo of wheat from Constantinople to Cork, hove in sight, and the captain, having observed the pinnace, immediately shortened sail and lay to, preparing to take them on board. On reaching the ship, notwithstanding the stress of weather and straitened means for the support of so large an increase to his crew, Captain Cavassa received the Englishmen with unbounded kindness and hospitality, supplying them with all that was needful in their destitute condition. The exigencies of the gale had obliged Captain Cavassa to sacrifice more than half his cargo, and during the four-days' run into Falmouth the weather carried away his rudder, and brought into useful requisition the services of his English passengers.

INCIDENTS OF THE CATASTROPHE.

The crowd on board were afraid to leave the ship, having naturally been frightened by the sinking of the iron boat, and those who put off in the second boat were shouted at not to make the attempt, as their chance was hopeless. Some heroic sacrifices were made. One of the passengers in the boat, Mr. John Wilson, a native of Montrose, went down into the cabin and endeavoured to persuade a friend, Mr. John Hickman, from Ballarat, and brother to Mr. Hickman, solicitor, of Southampton, to attempt to save his life by going into the boat; but, after being entreated, he said, "No; I promised my wife and children to stay by them, and I will do so." The water was then a considerable depth on the lee side of the saloon—indeed, over the tops of the berths—and he asked Mr. Wilson to help him in removing his four children to the windward side, out of the water. This was done; and then he shook hands with Mr. Wilson, with "Good-by, Jack," and parted with his friend for ever. When last seen, Mr. Hickman was standing in a row with his wife and children. When the men were all in the boat, one of the seamen cried, "There may still be room; fetch a

lady." Mr. Wilson then sprang over a portion of the deck in search of a lady whom he knew; but not seeing her, and knowing that every instant was precious, he said to a young girl, "Will you go?" She did not refuse, therefore Mr. Wilson seized her and took her to the bulwarks; but when she looked over the rails and saw the distance which she must spring she said, in despair, "Oh, I cannot do that." There was no time for persuasion or palsy, and Mr. Wilson was obliged to drop the girl and jump from the steamer to the boat, into which he fell safely. As the rope was being cut those in the boat were piteously called upon by a lady about twenty-three years of age, who, with a face which was, it is stated, livid with horror, shrieked out an offer of "a thousand guineas if you'll take me in." The Dutch portion of the crew, twenty-one in number, refused to work, and, according to the English sailors who were saved, these men went to their berths and remained there, so that the passengers had to work at the pumps wearily for many hours with the English seamen. Mr. G. V. Brooke (who, with his sister, had shipped under the name of Vaughan) exerted himself incessantly. Attired only in a red Crimean shirt and trousers, with no hat on, and, barefooted, he went backwards and forwards to the pumps until working at them was found to be useless; and when last seen—about four hours before the steamer went down—he was leaning with grave composure upon one of the half doors at the companion. His chin was resting upon both hands, and his arms were on the top of the door, which he gently swayed to and fro, whilst he calmly watched the scene. One of the passengers who saw him last has said, "He had worked wonderfully, and in fact, more bravely than any man on board that ship." To the steward, who made himself known, Brooke said, "If you succeed in saving yourself, give my farewell to the people of Melbourne." The rescued men remember with gratitude and respect the efforts put forth by ministers on board. The Rev. Dr. Woolley encouraged the passengers to work at the pumps, in which he was seconded by the stewardess, who had a son on board, and cheered the passengers by her collected demeanour and constant attentions. Next must be mentioned a circumstance the publication of which may prove to be of great importance. Mr. Munro states that a passenger named Eastwood, with whom he had been acquainted prior to the voyage, said to him, "Well, Jack, I think we are going to go." The answer was, "I think we are, Eastwood." The reply was, "We cannot help it. There's only one thing I regret about it—a draught for £500 on the Bank of Victoria, Ballarat, I only received £20, which I gave to the captain in the office of Money Wigram and Co. I should have liked my poor father to have got the balance." The speaker was amongst those who perished, but, fortunately and singularly enough, his communication was made to one of the three surviving passengers; and as the deceased Mr. Eastwood's father is known to live near Liverpool, the probability is that his son's wish will be fulfilled—a wish that was so fervent that Mr. Eastwood shed tears as he expressed it. Mention has been made of the Rev. Mr. Draper's exhortations to the unhappy people in the chief saloon. The women sat round him reading bibles with the children, and occasionally some man or woman would step up to Mr. Draper and say, "Pray with me, Mr. Draper"—a request that was always complied with. Up to the time the ship went down the rev. gentleman ministered to those amongst whom he moved constantly. He was heard to say repeatedly, "Oh, God, may those that are not converted be converted now—hundreds of them!" When the boat put off with the three passengers, fourteen men, and two boys—one being the youngest midshipman, on his first voyage—many of the passengers who, although expecting death, little knew how very soon it was to come upon them, waved their handkerchiefs and cheered when the boat got about a dozen yards from the ship, being apparently anxious that some should live to tell their hapless tale. It was remarked that the third officer, who was named Angel, stood to the last to his post at the donkey-engine, which was employed in working the pumps, and that his hands were on the engine even as the vessel disappeared. Miss Marks, of Old Kent-road, London, was at first almost frantic; yet when the boat left she stood calmly on deck, bareheaded, and waved an adieu to Mr. Wilson. Mr. Grant, one of the officers, was lively throughout, and encouraged many to toil at the pumps—a work rendered by the wind highly dangerous and difficult. Miss Brooker, from Pimlico, was heard to say, as she wrung her hands, "Well, I have done all that I could, and can do no more." She then became outwardly calm. On Tuesday night, after the passengers had been alarmed by the shipping of water, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Wood (who had with her her husband and five children), Miss Brooker, and Miss Marks read the Bible by turns, in the second cabin. It was on that night that, after the sea had poured down the hatch, the captain said, "Boys, you may say your prayers." At twelve o'clock on the following night Mr. Draper held a general prayer-meeting in the saloon. An extraordinary fact deserves to be recorded. A poor old couple, who had three children with them, had tried in vain three times to go upon their voyage—first, in a vessel unknown, and which was wrecked; next, in the Duncan Dunbar, which also was recently wrecked; and lastly, Gardner, the steward, saw the poor wife washed overboard from the London, to leeward, her husband following her presently beneath the billows. Among the passengers were two stout old people, who had become favourites on board, and who had been sent for by their only son. The poor creatures, on learning that they must drown, took a small quantity of brandy and went below to die together in their cabin.

THE CAUSE OF THE DISASTER.

Much discussion has taken place as to the cause or causes of the sad event; but the idea, it seems, is gaining ground among the maritime population of Plymouth that the loss of the ill-fated ship London is mainly to be attributed to her having been overweighted. As she lay in the Sound it was noticed by scores of seamen that she was low in the water, "like a collier;" and, although no copy of her manifest can be procured in the port, it is generally believed that she had on board about twelve hundred tons of railway iron, which lay as a dead weight, bringing her main deck almost to the level of the water. To her already heavy cargo fifty tons of coals, in bags, were added while she lay in the Sound, and these were placed round her funnel. When the ship rolled they broke adrift; and the coals being washed down the scupper-holes, interfered greatly with the working of the pumps. Had the London been out a month she might possibly have met with impunity a gale similar to that in which she foundered; for the daily consumption of coal, water, and stores would have lightened her materially, and she would have ridden over, instead of forcing herself through, the tremendous waves she encountered. But, as she entered the Bay of Biscay, the iron weighed her down with considerable force, and she plunged into rather than upon the mountains of water which came driving on. This excessive loading, with a cargo which would have involved a tremendous strain for the tightest and most buoyant of wooden ships, dragged down this iron-case to a common destruction. The practice of carrying such dangerous cargo in passenger-ships is condemned by nautical men, and legislation to prevent it is required.

THE RELATIVES OF THE SUFFERERS.

A deputation of gentlemen waited, on Tuesday, upon the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House, London, to ask his Lordship to give his countenance to a subscription on behalf of the families of those who were lost. His Lordship at once consented, and suggested that the gentlemen present should form themselves into a committee to put before the public definitely the proposal they had to make.

CURIOUS REVERSES OF FORTUNE.—The lineal descendant of Dermot M'Morogh, the last Irish king, is now engaged working as a stonemason at some buildings in Toxteth Park, Liverpool. He is known by the name of Doyle. The undoubted representative of the celebrated Earl of Ulster, who flourished in the reign of Elizabeth, and who gave that Monarch a good deal of trouble in Ireland, is now a policeman in the Liverpool force. The grandson of one of the most eminent members of the Irish Parliament, who was not only distinguished as an orator and a beautiful lyric poet, but also for his patriotism and opposition to the Union, is now a barman in a spirit vaults near the Liverpool Exchange.

MR. G. V. BROOKE.

THIS tragic actor, whose sad fate and gallant conduct formed one of the most striking incidents connected with the wreck of the London, was born in 1819, and, having shown an early predilection for the stage, made, it is said, his first appearance at the Theatre Royal in his native city, Dublin, in 1833. The character selected was William Tell, in Mr. Knowles's play of that name, which seems so singularly ill-fitted for a boy of fourteen that we may surmise an inaccuracy in one of the above dates. Nevertheless his performance was sufficiently successful to lead to an engagement. After playing in two other cities of Ireland he proceeded to Scotland, and there acquired a reputation which even reached London. An engagement at the Victoria Theatre was the consequence of his fame in the sister kingdoms, and he seems to have delighted the audiences on the southern bank of the Thames by twelve performances of *Virginia*.

His success at the Victoria, which was followed by other provincial engagements, made but little impression on the general playgoers of the capital; but it was otherwise when, in January, 1848, he appeared at the old Olympic Theatre, then under the management of Mr. Davidson. Virtually this was his first appearance in London, and not often has the approaching debut of an actor produced so large an amount of curiosity as in the case of Mr. G. V. Brooke. He had many offers from metropolitan managers, and had refused them all; and these frequent negotiations, accompanied by the news of brilliant successes in the provinces, had naturally kept his name before the Londoners, who, eighteen years ago, were much more excitable on the subject of tragedy than they are at present. His performance of *Othello*, the character selected for his first appearance, at once secured him a wide popularity. He repeated the part to crowded audiences for thirty successive nights, and for some weeks in 1848 he stood high among the theatrical "lions" of London, lively discussions as to his merits taking place in every assemblage where plays and players form a topic of conversation. His physical advantages were very great. He had handsome and expressive features; his figure was tall and commanding; and, above all, his voice, which was afterwards deteriorated, was at first not only remarkably rich and sonorous, but singularly capable of extremes of light and shade. It was in giving expression to the more violent emotions that he turned these natural gifts to the best account; and the storms of passion which distinguished his *Othello* and his *Sir Giles Overreach* were certain, in his best days, of commanding the tumultuous applause of hundreds. The circumstance that he lacked finish, and was by no means perfect in declamation, rather increased than diminished his favour with the masses, for it confirmed a common belief that he owed his proficiency, not to crabbled art, but to fresh, healthy nature, and the "inspired genius" is always a popular figure. A similar belief was entertained earlier in the century with respect to Mr. Edmund Kean, and among the theatrical gossips of 1848 those were not wanting who saw in Mr. G. V. Brooke the tragedian on whom the Kean mantle had fallen. At opinions like these cooler judges shook their heads, and predicted that a permanent reputation of the highest kind would prove beyond the reach of the popular idol. After the destruction of the old Olympic by fire, Mr. Brooke was re-engaged by the unfortunate Mr. Watts, who opened the present Olympic at the end of 1849, and, in the course of the season, played the principal character in "The Noble Heart," a drama written, by Mr. G. H. Lewes, on the ancient Spanish model. But his repertory never greatly increased, and to the end of his career his best success seems always to have been achieved in *Othello* and *Sir Giles*.

On the termination of Mr. Watts's management Mr. G. V. Brooke retired from London for a considerable time, and, after fulfilling some provincial engagements, visited the United States, where his histrionic success was immense, though a managerial speculation at New York proved a failure. In September, 1853, he reappeared at Drury Lane, then under the management of Mr. E. T. Smith. Again, the opening character was *Othello*, and the enthusiasm of 1853, having a wider field for display, seemed to exceed that of 1848. Indeed, it is not too much to say that the success of Mr. G. V. Brooke as a tragedian in a theatre that long had been dissevered from tragic uses pioneered that permanent establishment of the poetical drama at Old Drury which we now find under the management of Messrs. Falconer and Chatterton. But his renewed popularity was not sufficiently vigorous to last through two engagements, and in 1854 he took his leave of the London public, and proceeded to Australia, where, as in America, his success as an actor was prodigious, but where, likewise, he failed as a manager. When, after seven years' absence from London, he reappeared in October, 1862, again as *Othello*, at Drury Lane, he found a generation that "knew not Joseph," and his return made scarcely any impression whatever upon the playgoing world. After a few performances at the large house he migrated to the City of London in Norton Folgate, and thence to the provinces. When he perished in the foundering of the London he was on his way to fulfil an engagement at Melbourne. Lovers of coincidences may compare the death of Mr. G. V. Brooke with those of Mr. Tyrone Power in the President, and of Mr. Elton in the Pegasus.

The Christian names of Mr. Brooke were Gustavus Vaughan, not Gustavus Vasa, as some have erroneously supposed.

PATENT OFFICE INQUIRY.

THE final report of Messrs. Greenwood and Hindmarch, the Commissioners appointed by the Lord Chancellor to inquire into the state of the Patent Office, was made public on Saturday last. The document is of considerable length, but, in substance, it expresses the opinion that the present staff of the office is far too small, and that the work in several departments is much in arrears in consequence. The Commissioners recommend that the Patent Office museum, which is now located at South Kensington, should be in the same building as the Patent Office, or in some place near to it, but that no accommodation can be obtained for it in any existing building near the present office. Of the manner in which the officers have exerted themselves to carry out the provisions of the Act of 1852, under which the office is constituted, the Commissioners say:—"It was unfortunate that a person so unfit as the late clerk of the patents should have been placed at the head of the office, and if there had not been several officers of ability and energy in the Patent Office, who exerted themselves to the utmost to carry into effect the new law, the public would have derived little, if any, benefit from the change of the law effected by the Patent Law Amendment Act; and we think that they are entitled to great credit for the manner in which they have formed their system, distributed their duties amongst themselves, and discharged them. Left to themselves for years without any superintending head in matters of detail, they have had to frame a system as well as work it, and we think it due to the present staff of officers to express our sincere opinion that they have discharged their duties with diligence, intelligence, and conscientiousness. They have exerted themselves greatly to advance the interests of the office, and we think that they have strong claims to the favourable consideration of the Commissioners and of the Lords of the Treasury." Some of the recommendations contained in the report have already been carried out. Amongst these we may mention the erection of a new library for the use of patentees, which building will, we believe, be ready in the course of the summer. According to the Patent Law Amendment Act, as subsequently amended, there are stamp duties paid upon patents for revenue purposes, which now every year greatly exceed the annual amount of duties paid into the Exchequer before the passing of the Act above mentioned. Fees were also by the Act required to be paid, for the purpose of raising a fund to pay the expenses of the Patent Office and carrying the provisions of the new law into effect. These fees (now paid in the shape of stamp duties) annually amount to a much larger sum (£50,000, we believe) than has ever been expended for the expenses of the office. These fees were not made payable for the purpose of raising a public revenue; and the Commissioners think that not any of them ought to be allowed to form part of the general revenue of the country until the accommodation, expenses, and due working of every department of the Patent Office have been amply and liberally provided for. The Commissioners, in short, express the opinion that the value and importance of the Patent Office have not been duly appreciated, and that the time has arrived when it ought to be put upon a different footing.

THE FUNERAL OF SIGNOR MASSIMO D'AZEGLIO took place at Turin, on the 17th, and was attended by a vast crowd of the population, as well as by the Prefect, the Syndic, and the members of the municipality, generals and officers of all arms, and the senators and deputies present in that city. A numerous body of students, artists, and workmen formed part of the cortege, which was opened and closed by the troops of the line and National Guard.

Literature.

The Omnibus. A Satire. London: Trübner and Co.

Though we have in these days plenty of wits, or supposed wits, we have few satirists, and these few are neither very robust nor very vigorous. A real bit of rattling, ringing, stinging satire, therefore, is quite a treat. And in the "Omnibus" we have it, not altogether free from faults, and withal much too brief (the work consists of only forty-three pages of widely-printed matter); but still, on the whole, good and acceptable. The author does not give his name, but, whoever he is, he possesses acute powers of observation and the capacity to express his thoughts in terse and generally well-turned verse. The task of lashing "the age's follies as they rise" is at all times ungracious, though useful; and the operator, if he perform the work efficiently and with unflinching candour, is likely to make foes of all whom he finds occasion to castigate; hence the reason, probably, for the concealment of the name of the writer of this clever brochure. But, whether he reveal himself in future or not, we trust that the promise implied at the end of this publication will be redeemed, and that we shall have further instalments of the results of the writer's observations when his Pegasus has returned from grazing in Kentish pastures. There is plenty of scope for the exercise of the satiric muse; our age not being less fruitful than others in vices, follies, and abuses demanding exposure and castigation. We have had no great social satire for a long time, and as we think we perceive indications of powers adequate to the work in the present author, we shall hail with pleasure further contributions from his pen. The only great English satirist since Pope's days—Byron—dealt more with the literary and dramatic than with the social aspects of life. Johnson's "London" is less a satire than an essay in rhyme on the moral aspects of the town. So there is a void in our literature which the present author may aspire to fill. We have recently had, to be sure, satirists in prose—Thackeray, for instance—but their sarcasms were mixed up with other elements, such as the incidents of a story, the portrayal of character, and so on, which are apt to divert attention from the satire with which they are associated. The rhyming satirist, who is a satirist pure and simple, enjoys peculiar advantages, and is free from serious drawbacks. What he says tells not merely because of its truth and pungency, but because it is clothed in a guise that at once arrests attention.

The idea of adopting the omnibus as the vehicle—if we may so express ourselves—for observing life is not a new one. If we mistake not, Mr. G. A. Sala has already made use of it. Still, it is a very good vehicle for all that, and we have it very well worked in this little book. After an address to the omnibus, which is thus invoked:—

All hail! thou kindest gift of human sense!
Thou envy of the wretch who lacks three-pence!
All hail! thou huge, earth-born Leviathan!
Thou rattling, rumbling, two-horse caravan!

the author, perched on box-seat or knifeboard, proceeds to take his rides abroad and to tell what he sees and what he thinks of the men and things that come under his observation. He begins with the City, of course, and rapidly passes in review the strange mangle-mangle of places, races, and pursuits there to be found. On the subject of charity, he says that—

Pity calls to stoner, that shed no tear;
For pity calls to men, that like the stones do hear:

a remark wonderfully pat to the conduct of poor-law officials of all grades, as exemplified in not a few recent specimens of how charity is administered by these worthies. Our public statues come in for a due share of animadversion; the reference to the position of the statue of George IV., as it looks upon the fountains in Trafalgar-square, closing with this bitter couplet:—

Like Dives, meeting Heaven's judicial ire,
Beholding water while he's feeling fire!

Public preachers are next passed in review, a warm and hearty tribute being paid to the Rev. Mr. Maurice, "brave great Teacher;" as well as to the Rev. Baptist Noel, whose life teaches us "how beautiful and strong real goodness is." The sham papistical doings at "All Saints," near Cavendish-square, are lashed with no sparing hand, the passage closing thus:—

I'll stop outside; I like the genuine thing.
The Romish service here they only forge;
I'll wait for the Cathedral of St. George.

Of a reverend gentleman famous for his powers of elocution, our author observes that—

Though slander says (and slander never sleeps)
He reads the law much better than he keeps;
Each look, each word, each sermon's thoughtful plan,
Denotes the high-bred Christian gentleman.

Dr. Cumming, we are told,

Sees allusions in the Sacred Word
To Lord John Russell and Napoleon III.,
Who, if the Queen upon her doorway slips,
Finds it foretold in the Apocalypse;
And makes one thing to all the doctors plain—
His is a case of—Prophecy on the brain.

The author's most scathing invectives, however, are reserved for poor, weak Brother Ignatius, who, we are told, after a great many improbable and impossible things have come to pass, may

have a chance to see
Monasticism revived in victory;
And England, mindless of her ancient evil,
Accept his vermin monks—and defy the devil!

We copy, as a more complete specimen of our author's powers, the following sketch of a gentleman who is tolerably well known in London, and who lately made an effort to achieve senatorial honours, not because it is the best, but because it is, in some respects, the most perfect picture in the book:—

Within a bowshot of this Margaret Street,
Standing again what queer extremes may meet,
Stands, in its motley glory, Cambridge Hall,
For Spirit Rappers made a House of Call,
But let to any thing that comes along;
From high discourse of Faith to negro song;
And famed, besides its concerts, balls, and routs,
That Doctor Peritt hither comes and spouts.
A wondrous, miscellaneous, man he is,
Shrewd, witty, bookish, fluent, rash, and free,
Accused of every thing—*succ puto!*
"New Reformation" is the creed he shows,
And advocates with good square knocks and blows;
A certain rough, rude, reckless, slashing style,
That now the heart thrills, now excites a smile;
A scorn of slavery, meanness, lies, and pelf;
A sweet, serene, approval of himself;
A pity for the downcast, poor, and weak;
A boundless rich capacity of cheek;
A love of learning, liberty, and truth;
No dignity, much humour, constant youth;
And that prized gift, than genius more and luck,
Downright and never-dying British pluck.
What'er he does he does with all his might—
A speech, a prayer, or an election fight.
His sermons show all Literature is vexed
To yield the Parson's stock-in-trade—a text:
Little he reckons the critic's angry scowl,
As now he starts with Paul, and now Jean Paul,
And, looking inward for the good and true,
As much regards the German as the Jew.
All themes that human hands or thoughts engage,
On Sundays find a hearing on this stage;
Faith, Finance, Egypt, and the Book of Job,
A High Priest's, or a Maid or Honour's robe;
Gladstone, Isaiah, the Atlantic Cable,
A parable, a psalm, an *Æsop's* fable;
Phrenology, Repentance, Mesmerism,
Light cast upon a Prophet or a priest;
The Decalogue, the structure of the bones,
The growth of Conscience and the vocal tones;
The Poor Laws, Cholera, the Law of Love,
All things upon the earth, below, above;

And still o'er all one subject ever reigns,
And still comes back in ever fluent strains,
One central theme, to him no bringing surfeit,
The glorious, fruitful, theme of—Doctor Peritt!

In reading this, one is irresistibly reminded of James Russell Lowell's description of Parker, the excommunicated American Socinian preacher. Between Parker and Peritt there seems to be a close resemblance; and the same resemblance is traceable in the style and description adopted by the American and the English satirist.

Alfred Hagart's Household. By ALEXANDER SMITH, Author of "A Summer in Skye," &c. 2 vols. London: Alexander Strahan.

A dozen years have worked a wondrous change in the author of "A Life Drama." Then the literature was voluptuous in passion; whilst now it flows, like Mr. Coventry Patmore's "River," as "calm as household love." The moon and the stars, once so prominent, are certainly not entirely neglected; but they occupy the position, as in a playbill, of "nobles, retainers, &c.," rather than the prominence of Othello and Iago. The lovers of the sublime will most likely welcome "Alfred Hagart's Household," if only for a change. The story does not run into the neighbouring extreme, but is successful in being at once interesting and intelligible. The principal character is Mr. Alfred Hagart, a drawing-master, who effects a runaway match with a pupil, who is, in consequence, disowned for ever by every member of her wealthy family, and all the McQuarrie money is divided away from Margaret. What becomes of one share of this may be easily guessed by the time the book is half finished; but the art of working out, and the writing, are so good and attractive that if all were "plain as daylight" from the beginning the pleasure of the reading would be in no way diminished. The scenery and characters are all Scotch; and Mr. Smith, whilst doing full justice to the beauties of northern scenery, has not committed the error of attempting to paint angels. Maggie and Oona McQuarrie are in different ways capital specimens of Highland lasses, and young Hagart and little Katy an excellent boy and girl. The death of the latter is painfully vivid. In paths it may claim to compare with Mr. Dickens's death of little Nell, and it has the advantage of being free from romance, and is simply an everyday incident of middle-class Scottish life. Especially good are the talks between father and son—the father not over wise, the son dutiful, but strong; and the reader may be sure that there are many people of the worldly kind who are thoroughly discomfited in the end. The finest drawn of the characters are Alfred Hagart and old Aunt Kate. Alfred is disappointed in Art, and so draws patterns for Paisley manufacturers. He is successful on and off, but his great vanity and pride are always inducing falls. When, at last, a fortune is literally given him, and he fully believes that he has earned it (as the donor intends him to do), his mixture of ease and dignity, and thorough self-satisfaction is as amusing, fresh, and vigorous as any novel-writer ever need care to give. Aunt Kate has had her disappointments also—just a love affair, through mistaken pride. She goes through a long life a savage old single lady, rather dangerous to those near her. By simple means she is converted from the stormy path and lives to do infinite good, and dies in the presence of all the amiable people she has ultimately befriended.

As a story, "Alfred Hagart's Household" is simple, unexciting, and unpretentious. It will be liked for the tones of characters hinted at above, for its exquisite descriptions, and the perfect naturalness which almost seems to take it out of the realms of fiction.

A Selection from the Works of Martin Farquhar Tupper. London: Moxon and Co.

Is there, or has there ever been, a better-abused man of letters than Mr. Martin Farquhar Tupper? The author of "Proverbial Philosophy" must either be a terrible poetical sinner or he has been terribly sinned against. Suppose the first to be the fact: were there never poetical sinners before, who might at least hope to be forgiven or forgotten some time or other? Mr. Tupper, however, seems destined to have no rest. He is sneered at, taunted, poot-pooted, laughed at, in all sorts of publications and by all sorts of persons. From the veteran in literature to the youngest cockney scribbler, all seem to consider Mr. Tupper fair game. Can all this be merited by an author whose productions sell? And that brings us to our second supposition—May not Mr. Tupper be more sinned against than sinning? This would appear to be the verdict of the general public; for, despite adverse criticism, they buy his books, and, it is to be presumed, read them, which is more, we suspect, than many of his critics do. Mr. Tupper has been accused of many literary crimes: he is feeble, he is servile, he is an imitator, he is a plagiarist, and so forth. Well, grant all these things true, and he is only in the same boat with many others who have not been so severely punished for their faults. Plagiarism is perhaps the worst thing laid to our author's charge; and, though 'tis a grievous fault, he is by no means alone in its commission. You see, it is very difficult to be original nowadays, so many clever people having lived before our time; and, as Gilbert Gurney, we think, once remarked in the *New Monthly Magazine*, Shakespeare and those other early fellows have stolen all the good things from their successors. But, be the Proverbial Philosopher guilty of the things charged upon him or not, he is evidently not altogether inclined to put up with kicks without having a fling in reply, and lashes out pretty vigorously. In the preface to this selection—which, by-the-by, forms one of the volumes of Moxon's "Miniature Poets"—he has one kick at his adversaries. "If anyone," says he, "will honestly judge an author, let him first read his works—the very last thing thought of by certain professional critics." That is a pretty smart kick against the pricks; but in a poem addressed to "certain maligners," we have a still better:—

Ay, slanderous scribes! You nameless, shameless men,

Contempt, contempt, is all I fling to you,—
Degs of detraction! bay me as you do:
Still, yield me snarling homage in your spite;
Bark, at your fiercest,—no one fears your bite,—
Revile, or ridicule, traduce, or blame,
To me, my generous friends, 'tis all the same,—
Because, by good men's praises long made glad,
You make me great by censures from the bad!

There, though we have never joined in the cry against Mr. Tupper, we have given him the benefit of our columns for his reply; and so, perhaps, he will excuse our criticising the poems in the present volume, lest we, too, should be tempted to say something that might rank us with "slanderous scribes." The book, like the whole series of "Miniature Poets," is beautifully got up, and is prefaced with a handsome portrait of the author.

Up the Elbe and on to Norway. By MR. NIHIL. London: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

Mr. Nihil writes like a very happy man—a most pleasant, complacent gentleman, who has a friend who owns a yacht. This friend is Mr. Nihil, a "Northumbrian squire of degree," and the squire invited Mr. Nihil to go with him up the Elbe, on to Norway, and home again. They went, taking with them Mr. Nihil, jun., Mr. Worcester, "late of Oxford University," and Mr. Nihil's pet monkey. Five passengers, then, and if Nihil is much the same on board ship as he is on paper, four of these five are much to be pitied. Mr. Nihil is the smallest observer and joker in the world. Perhaps, in the suburbs, no select tea-party would be perfect without him, but his genius is scarcely suited to the ocean. From Murray he says something about Gluckstadt, Hamburg, and Christiansand, and that the Holsteiners are contented; and the book winds up with some dreary originalities about Yarmouth and Dover, Sir Richard Mayne, and the London theatres; and there is a pleasant party about coming by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway without accident. We should imagine this book to be published for about six or seven shillings; and we put it to the publishers whether it be fair to tempt the public with such an investment. A reprint or paraphrase of

Murray's Handbook is surely not expected. All about the monkey is mere twaddle. Such a participle as "clamb" is not to be endured, and "timely" can be fixed on to no part of speech. The author should be saved from his friends, if they advised him to "rush in" to print, where many angels have been known to "fear to tread."

Miss Biddy Frohisher. A Salt-water Story. By the Author of "Mary Powell." London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.

As a large mass of society makes up its mind to be dissatisfied with fiction pure and simple, it is pleasing to be able to say at once that the salt-water story of Miss Biddy Frohisher has at least a foundation in fact. Our contemporary, the *Illustrated London News*, of June 11, 1864, says:—"An old lady named Miss Betsy Miller lately died at Glasgow, who, in her younger days, took a fancy to maritime speculation, and actually chartered an old brig, and became sailing-master. So successful was her career, that she was enabled to pay off a debt of £700, maintain herself in comfort, and bring up two sisters left dependent on her." The accomplished author of "Mary Powell" seizes this peg and thereupon hangs a story more remarkable for the pleasant manner in which it is told than for its virtues in the way of excitement or originality. Miss Biddy Frohisher must be about thirty years of age when the story opens, introducing her, on the deck of the "Lively Peggy," bringing the ship into port. There has been a prosperous run to Jersey and back, and Lisbon is soon visited. This time, however, the crew engage in smuggling, and the poor lady is fined nearly all her savings, and has cheerfully to begin all over again. These maritime sketches are in salt-water, indeed. They have about them the crisp cut of tone of Hooke and the dingier seaside effects of Calcott; and, mixed up with the strangely-mingled society of a small place on the coast, with smuggling and toddy, give a very lifelike idea of a couple of acres of nautical England towards the close of the long war. Biddy's two young half-sisters, Hetty and Bell, are decidedly nice girls, but Bell is a small heroine into the bargain. She is a charming hospital nurse, and it is more than probable that she teaches navigation to that capital little boy Peregrine, who is born to be a sailor. She gets the best reward in the whole book, unless people should think a very weak and vain young man better off because he gets more money. We think not. For a girl of twenty, a handsome and manly Post Captain—in it is the wars, and he may not be more than thirty-five; nowadays Lieutenants drop off at the premature age of ninety—seems not so bad. But this is telling the story—a sacrifice which one-volume novels will not bear. The series, as the writer's volumes may be called, are so well known that readers are sure to call again for more good characters and principles given in a happy manner quite peculiar to the author of "Mary Powell."

The Kickleburys on the Rhine. The Rose and the Ring. By MR. M. A. TITMARN. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

Both these works, by the late Mr. Thackeray, having been some time out of print, a new edition has just been issued, for which, we are sure, the public will be very grateful to Messrs. Smith and Elder. The merits of these books have long been appreciated; and though the grandeur of the author's later efforts threw these earlier productions somewhat into the shade, still the world will not willingly let anything that came from the hand of William Makepeace Thackeray drop into oblivion—a fate which, even had it been possible, is certain to be averted by the issue of these handsomely got-up volumes. We welcome them, therefore, with much pleasure, and hope that the publishers will take care that Mr. Thackeray's other works—great and small—will be reissued as occasion demands. The public for whom the author wrote, and by whom he is appreciated, though at first limited, is a rapidly-increasing one; and we are persuaded that ere long the thinking and the cultivated will not be the only parties who thoroughly know and understand Thackeray, but that his works will be really familiar as household words in every family in his native land, and in thousands beyond it.

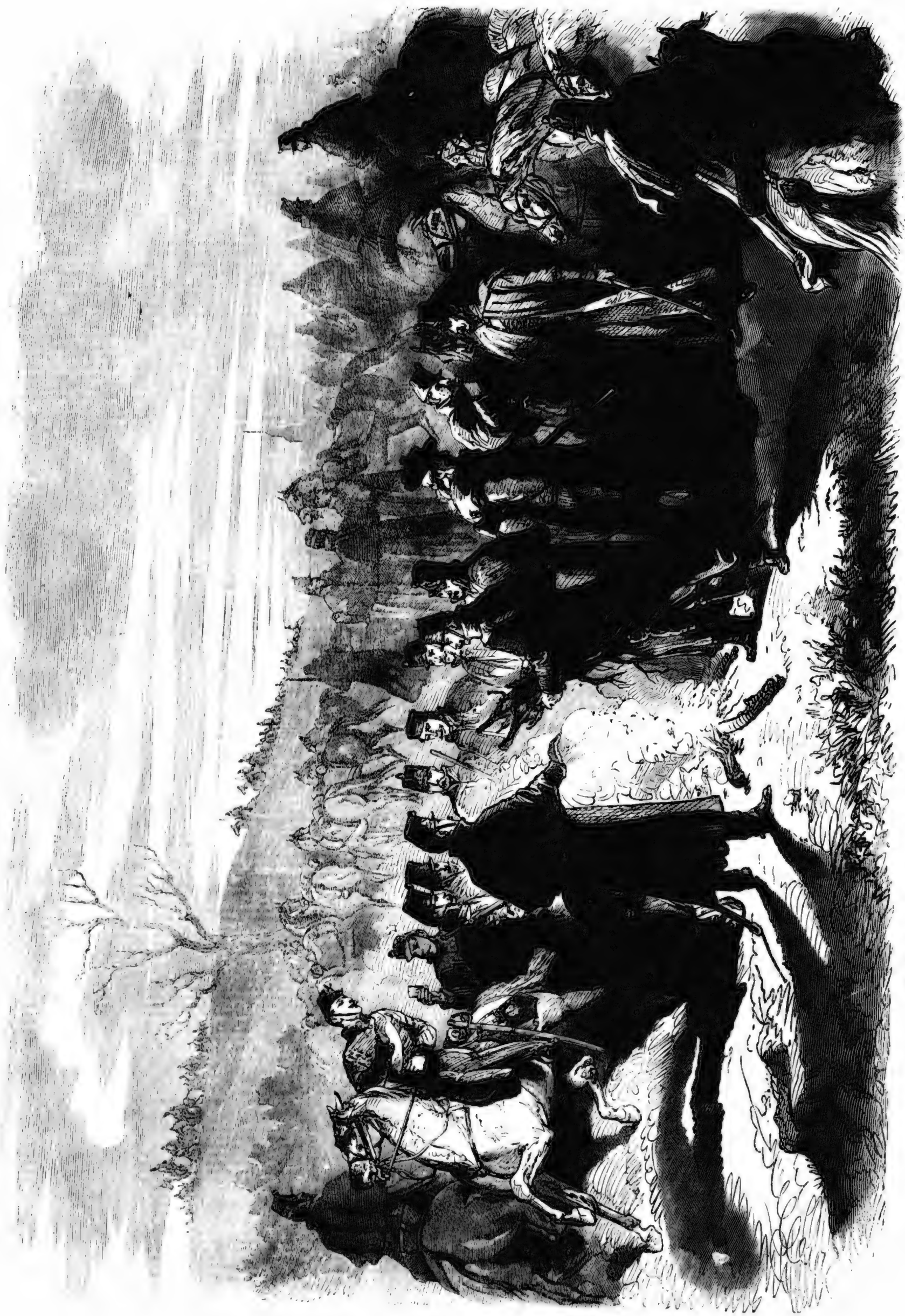
The Young Englishwoman. London: S. O. Beeton.

The second completed volume of this popular periodical has just been issued, and in most respects maintains the character for excellence which distinguished its predecessor. The contents are so multitudinous and so multifarious that it is impossible to criticise them in detail. We must content ourselves, therefore, with saying that contributions from many of the old writers again appear, and that all the old features are still prominent. The volume is again accompanied by a very handsome case of patterns, which must be especially welcome to those—young Englishwomen—to whom the work specially appeals.

A LETTER FROM LORD CLAIRENDON, addressed to the secretary of the Evangelical Alliance, who had requested him to interfere on behalf of the oppressed Nestorians in Persia, states that our Minister at Teheran, Mr. Alison, had urged the case of these Oriental Christians upon the Shah in person, who had taken steps which Mr. Alison regarded as satisfactory and efficient to redress the wrongs of which they complained.

COLOURED STARS.—The *Cosmos* publishes an article by M. W. de Fonville on the "Chromatic Theory of Stellar Motions." The following extract will sufficiently explain his views:—"Suppose the real diameter of all the stars (stars) to be the same, and also the light they emit to be always white at the moment of emission, and their absolute velocity in the stellar spaces to be about the same, save a few vicissitudes of a secondary nature, then the stars impressing our vision with light most vividly coloured will be those which either are moving towards the sun or moving away from it in a straight line—that is, those which by mere accident happen to move in the direction of the sun's radial vectors, whether approaching to or receding from it; the colour turning to red in the one case, and to violet in the other. The depth of colour by which they differ from white light will be exclusively due to the variations of the sun's radius vector (variations of distance from the sun); just as the variations in the shrillness of the whistle of a steam-engine are exclusively due to the distance performed on the rails, supposing the steam to have always the same tension, and to be always let off in the same manner. The various shades of colour among the stars are then deducible from the orientation of the sun's velocity, from the angle under which these different stars are seen, and from the ratio of the common velocity of translation to that of the propagation of light. We may therefore easily distinguish the stars from which we recede from those towards which we move, just as we may say, with our eyes shut, that the locomotive draws us towards the shriller whistles, and draws us away from those the sound of which is deeper." Hence our author is led to enunciate the following general theorem:—"That from eternity the sun has been moving on the line which joins the centre of gravity of the stars of a violet hue with that of the stars of a reddish one."

POSTAGE TO BRITISH COLONIES AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.—On the 1st of February next and thenceforward the British registration fee on every registered letter posted in the United Kingdom addressed to any British colony or foreign country will be reduced from 1d. to 4d. The same reduction will take place in the fee chargeable on any newspaper or book-packet addressed to a British colony or to the kingdom of Italy which the sender may desire to register. Registered letters, however, addressed to France, or to any foreign country the correspondence of which is sent in the French mail, will continue chargeable with a registration fee of the same amount as the postage to which they are liable. To the following countries and places letters are sent, by way of France, and in the French mail—viz., Baden, Bavaria, Switzerland, Württemberg, Greece, the Papal States, Tangiers, Tunis, and the places in the Levant at which France maintains post-offices (Constantinople and Alexandria excepted), a list of which appears at page 89 of the *British Postal Guide*. In consequence of this reduction in the amount of the British fee for registration the total registration fee required to be paid in advance on registered letters addressed to the under-mentioned countries and places will in each instance be reduced to the extent of 2d., and will be as follows:—Austria (when specially addressed via Italy), 9d. Places in Turkey, Moldavia, Wallachia, the Levant, &c., at which Austria maintains post-offices—viz., Botschauf, Ploeshtea, Bakau, Boriad, Bucharest, Fockeeban, Jassy, Piatra, Roman, Antivari, Durazzo, Valona, Galatz, Giurgevo, Ibraila, Philippopol, Prevesa, Rusechok, Sofia, Adrianople, Beyrout, Bourgas, Calfa, Candia, Canca, Cavalla, Chio, Constantinople, Tchernavoda, Dardanelles, Gallipoli, Jaffa, Kustendje, Ineboli, Lagos, Larzac, Mytilene, Redimo, Rhodes, Salonica, Samos, Seres, Sinope, Smyrna, Sulina, Tenedos, Trebizond, Tultcha, Varna, Volo, Janina, Jerusalem, Ionian Islands, Greece and Alexandria (when specially addressed via France and Austria), 7d.; Cairo, Damanour, Katerzajet, Tanta, Birket-el-Sab, Benha, Zagazik, Zifta, Miholia, Samoud, Mansoura, Damietta, Suez, and Porto Said, ditto, 1s.—By command of the Postmaster-General.—General Post Office, Jan. 22.

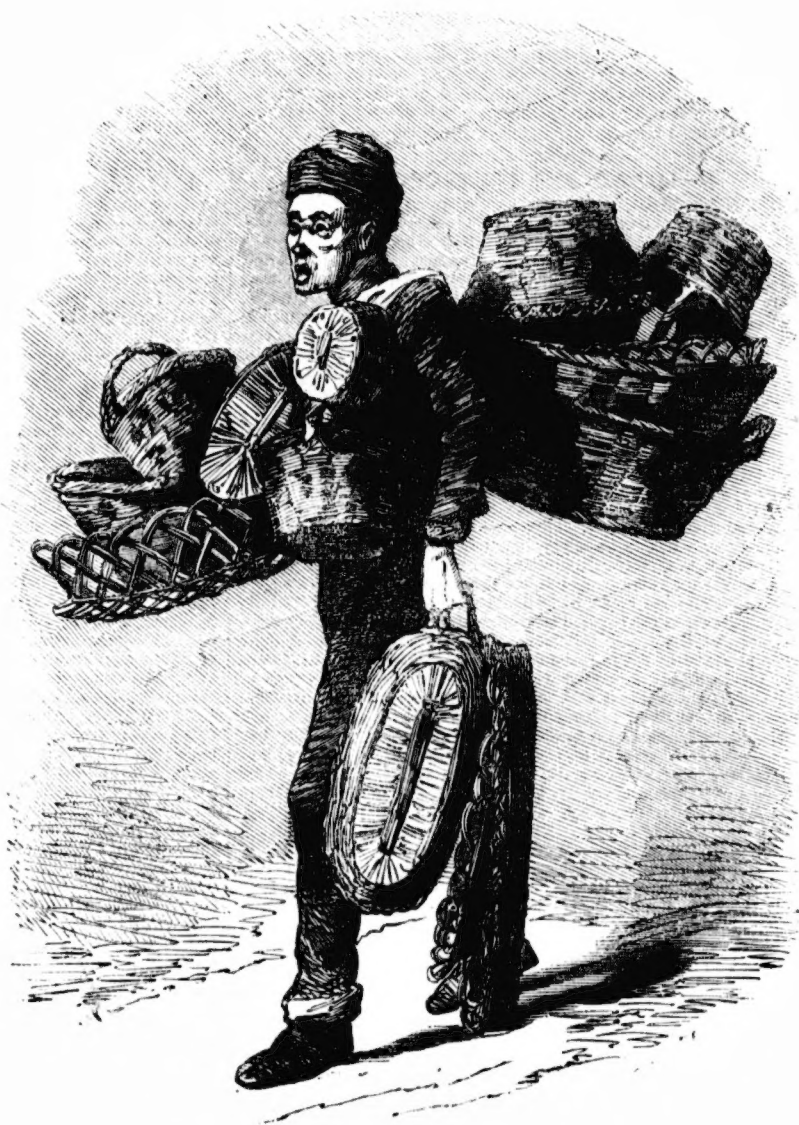


THE REVOLT IN SPAIN: INSURGENT TROOPS DIVOUCING AT VILLAGO DE SALVANES WHILE PURSUED BY GENIE. I. ZAFALIA.

M A D R I D S T R E E T C H A R A C T E R S .



SHOE-SELLER.



BASKET-MERCHANT.



DOG-FANCIER.



FLOWER-SELLER.

BIVOAC OF SPANISH INSURGENT TROOPS.

If we may credit the news from Madrid, the military revolt is now at an end. By the last advices it is declared that Prim has passed into Portugal, and that the insurrection (which was, perhaps, after all, no insurrection) has been at length suppressed.

Our Engraving represents an incident in connection with the movement of one part of the rebellious army. It is pretty well known that by the aid of part of the cavalry regiments of Bailen and Calatrava, General Prim first raised the standard of the so-called revolt. Directly after these two regiments had declared in favour of the General, Zabala set out to pursue the insurgents—a mission which he continued to discharge with a pertinacity all the more remarkable when it is considered that it was so tardy in producing results. He arrived at Villargo de Salvanes just after Prim had retired, and the Engraving which we publish is taken from a sketch of the encampment, the still smouldering fires of which at least the pursuing General may have had some satisfaction in seeing.

MADRID AND ITS PEOPLE.

ON Twelfth Night, which is a sort of carnival time in Spain, there were some fears that a riot would break out in the Barrios de Bajo, the lowest quarter of the city and the abode of those itinerants of whom we publish some more Engravings. In this quarter, and especially in the Atocha and Toledo streets, the elements of insurrection smoulder, and only want stirring to burst into a flame. No disturbances, however, have taken place in the Spanish capital; and, now that General Prim has passed into Portugal, all danger is over for the present.

This Toledo-street, by-the-by, is one of the most picturesque, and perhaps one of the dirtiest, in Madrid; but it is, after all, in the more distant parts of the city that the visitor will have to look for those groups which artists love as studies; for the Plaza de Cebada, for instance, where the brown-clad peasants fill their water-barrels, or sit upon them as they discuss the latest reports of the day; in La Plazuela de los Carros and its fountain, the head-quarters of female gossip; and, above all, in the Plaza Santa Cruz, one may see the street characters of Madrid.

Nobody who has been many hours in Madrid will despise the slipper-seller, who, struggling along with a frame on one shoulder and a basket on the other, awakes the echoes of the streets; for even the best houses often have floors of painted or polished tiles; and, though these are covered in winter with mats made of esparto, they are not the thing for boots. Matting forms a considerable article of trade in Spain; and the Valencianos who deal in it keep it in pieces of about a yard wide, piled up to the very ceilings of their shops, masters and assistants often wearing their provincial costume, and sitting, waiting for customers, with their own feet enveloped in sandals also made of woven esparto. Scarcely less important is the business of the basket-maker, whose neat or gay receptacles are of every variety of pattern suited to a city where there is a great demand for baskets for all sorts of purposes, as there generally is in a fruit country.

The Spanish dog-fancier, though a little more picturesque, is, perhaps, even less attractive in his appearance than his English representative, and yet he differs as much from the well-known figure, half fighting-man and half costermonger, as the animals he sells differ from the rough Skye terriers, the bulldogs, or the Newfoundland pups, "up to anythink a'most," with which we are so often tempted in the vicinity of the Royal Exchange. Our Spanish friend wears the jacket and sash of his country, and his rather sullen features are shaded by a broad-brimmed hat, while, except one or two tiny pups which he carries in a bag over his shoulder, with a side slit instead of a mouth, he leads each animal by a separate string. A queer canine collection they are, from the tall, slim, wistful hound to the pert little toy spaniel; or from the sulky brute intended, one would think, to guard a convent, to the diminutive pug with a face so laughably Spanish that one stops to compare it with the people.

Still more picturesque, however, is the flower-seller, because of the wares he carries. Such blooms!—they seem to flash in that vivid sun-like light through coloured glass, and leave a perfume in the air after the vender's sonorous cry has subsided to a distant murmur; but they need a profusion of green and gold and flaming scarlet and purple to light up those dim, blinded balconies, or to brighten the shadows of the rooms within the quiet courtyards of some Spanish houses.

OPERA, CONCERTS, AND NEW MUSIC.

WE understand that the English Opera Company mean to have an experimental season this summer at Drury Lane. Hitherto, the performances of English Opera have always taken place during the winter, which is more or less a dead season as far as music is concerned. On the other hand, during the summer the English Opera will have the formidable rivalry of two Italian operas to contend with.

The "Monday Popular Concert" of the 22nd was not, like that of the previous week, devoted entirely to the works of one master. On the contrary, each of the six pieces included in the programme was by a different composer. The quartet was Hady'n's; the pianoforte sonata Mozart's. Of two songs charmingly sung by Miss Robertine Henderson, one ("Slumber and Dream") was by Mendelssohn, the other ("Où voulez vous aller") by Gounod. Then the second part ended with a duo concertante (pianoforte and violin) by Spohr, and commenced with Beethoven's celebrated septet. The little orchestra to which the septet was intrusted consisted of MM. Straus, Webb, Paque, and Reynolds (stringed instruments), Lazarus (clarinet), C. Harper (horn), and Winterbottom (bassoon). The pianist of the evening was Mr. Charles Hallé, who played Mozart's melodious sonata in D, and afterwards took part with Herr Straus in Spohr's duet. At the concert of next Monday the vocalist will be Miss Gillies, Mr. Charles Hallé the pianist, and Herr Straus the violinist and leader of the quartet. A statistician has discovered that out of eight concerts given by the director of the Monday Popular series on the old plan, according to which each concert was given up to one, or at most two, of the recognised masters of the art, three were devoted altogether to Beethoven, two to Mozart, and one to Mendelssohn.

The National Choral Society, under the conductorship of Mr. G. W. Martin, will give its first performance this season of Handel's "Judas Maccabeus" in Exeter Hall, on Wednesday, the 31st. The band and chorus will number nearly 700 performers. Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Lucy Franklin, and the new tenor, Mr. Leigh Wilson, are already engaged as principal soloists.

Ouvane's Silent Shore (Addison and Co.); *What is love?* (S. Wilcooke); *Sitting lonely, ever lonely* (Cramer and Co.); *The river ran between them* (Addison and Co.); all by ELIZABETH PHILIP.

There are few composers who are so careful about the selection of words as Miss Philip. Of the four pieces now before us, one, "Ouvane's silent shore," is a pathetic and very characteristic Irish ballad, of which Miss Philip has written the words as well as the music. For the lines on which the song entitled "What is love?" is founded, she has had recourse to an old poet, to us unknown, of the sixteenth century, who sets forth in quaint language, of which Miss Philip has happily caught the spirit, that love is a mixture of joy and pain, and that, on the whole, the mixture is agreeable, or, if not positively agreeable, at least indispensable, life being intolerable without it. Love has been compared to all sorts of things, but never, we believe, to salad-dressing, which it nevertheless resembles. It has (as Miss Philip's ancient poet suggests to us) the softness of oil and the sharpness of vinegar. It gives a flavour to the salad of life, which without it would be as insipid as a raw lettuce, and it is, in itself, indigestible. "Sitting lonely, ever lonely," is, perhaps, the best of Miss Philip's numerous productions. The words of this charming ballad are by Miss Amelia B. Edwards, than whom no one in the present day writes more musical verses. "The river ran between

them" is the title of a little poem belonging to Mr. Le Fanu's novel, "The House by the Churchyard." It is well adapted for "setting" and Miss Philip has furnished it with appropriate and very expressive music.

THE POST OFFICE.

THE annual report of the Postmaster-General is always a very interesting document, on account of the information it gives respecting the correspondence which is carried on by this great commercial country. The eleventh report, which has just been presented to the Lords of the Treasury, shows in a very conclusive manner the rapidly-extending relations between the people and their foreign intercourse. In 1863 there were 642,324,618 letters delivered; while in 1864 this immense number was increased by 36,760,204, or at the rate of 5.72 per cent, and this with a total population under 30,000,000. In London alone there were 170,191,853 letters delivered, being at the rate of 51 to each person. The ratio in England and Wales was 27, in Scotland 20, in Ireland 9, and in the United Kingdom 22. The pattern-post was also occupied with the transmission of 625,950 packets; and this is the first occasion on which the report has had to deal with this branch of the department, as the pattern-post did not come into operation until the end of 1863. There are 3159 money-order offices, which issued orders to the amount of £17,317,093. On March 31 there were 3087 post-office savings banks, with 524,340 depositors, or 151,385 more than in the year 1863. The balance due to them was £5,365,925. As far as possible the Post Office appears to have responded to the demands for rapidity of delivery. In Scotland twenty-four additional towns were provided with a day mail to Edinburgh, and fourteen with a day mail from Edinburgh; and in Ireland ten additional towns were provided with a day mail to, and a day mail from, Dublin. On the whole, 28,000,000 letters and 21,500,000 books, papers, and patterns passed between this country and foreign countries and colonies in 1864, there being an increase on the previous year of 2,000,000 letters and 2,500,000 books, papers, and patterns. Up to the close of 1864 no change had taken place in the proportion borne by the foreign and colonial letters coming into the United Kingdom to the whole number of letters delivered in the kingdom. The foreign and colonial letters formed, as in many previous years, about one-fiftieth part of the whole number of letters delivered. The increase during 1864 in the number of circulars sent through the post in letters appears to have been considerable. In 1863 an account was taken of 4,000,000 letters which were posted in London, and which obviously contained circulars, and could be assigned to various trades and societies. In 1864 an account was taken of 4,600,000 similar letters posted at the London offices alone. Besides these, a very large number of circulars were dispatched through the book-post. The report is always polite enough to make special allusion to valentines. It will be interesting to many to learn that the custom was honoured to a greater extent than ever last February; for, while in 1863 the total was 494,700, in 1864 the number was augmented by 35,600, of which addition to the mail bags 27,100 were for delivery in London alone. Indeed, these tender epistles appear to be highly valued in London, if we may judge by the fact that, while there were 326,300 for the metropolis, there were only 204,000 for the country. In both 1863 and 1864 the number of valentines posted in the western district of London was nearly one-fourth of all that were posted in the whole metropolis. The increase in the number of registered letters during the year was at the rate of 8½ per cent, making the total number of registered letters for the year about 2,130,000. During the year 1864 only fourteen registered letters were lost in this country, and of these two were contained in the Macclesfield mail-bag, which was stolen from the standard of the apparatus for exchanging bags at the Chelford railway station, on the night of the 1st of April, 1864. The perpetrator of this robbery was very shortly discovered, convicted, and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. The regulations which were framed in 1861 for the compulsory registration of letters containing coin, if posted as ordinary letters, have had the effect of diminishing very largely the number of unregistered coin letters. A great reduction in the number of such letters had taken place up to the close of 1863, and during the year 1864 a further reduction of about thirty per cent. The proportion of returned letters to total correspondence is, moreover, much lower in the United Kingdom than in foreign countries. For example, in the year 1864 the United Kingdom had 3,154,000 to 679,000,000, whilst France had 2,034,000 to 298,000,000; Italy had 865,000 to 67,000,000; and the United States had 4,368,000 to 467,000,000. In the account which is given of the working of the money order office it is stated that the amount remitted to London continued to be largely in excess of the amount remitted from London, and the amount remitted to Ireland continued to be largely in excess of the amount remitted from Ireland.

His Lordship, in concluding his report, mentions that the following improvements were in contemplation at the end of the year:—A measure for the alteration of the scale of postage on inland letters, from a progression by one ounce and the charge for one ounce at each step after the first ounce of weight to a progression by half an ounce and the charge for half an ounce at each step; for giving additional facilities for the late posting of letters for the night mails out of London at the General Post Office and at the district offices. Some progress had been made in the introduction of the district system into Liverpool, and various plans for the increase of postal accommodation in that town were under consideration. The regulations for giving effect to the provisions of the Government Insurances and Annuities Act were in course of preparation. The effect of the measures will be described in the report for the year 1865.

PROFESSOR WELCKER (he and the late Dr. Rotteck were the editors of the far-famed "Conversations Lexicon," published by Brockhaus, of Leipzig) has offered a reward at Vienna of 1000 fl. for the best essay on the means, without having recourse to revolutionary measures, of getting rid of governments which systematically violate the constitutional rights of the people.

A MEETING of the shareholders of the Hudson's Bay Company was held on Wednesday to consider the present position of the company. After a good deal of discussion as to the value of their property, a resolution was passed unanimously that they would accept five millions sterling for their lands, which was at the rate of 2s. 6d. an acre. It was hinted that if this sum could not be obtained it might be advisable for the company to commence a grand colonising scheme themselves.

THE ARMY.—We believe that the final touch has been given to the reductions in the Army for the next financial year. On the whole they are less than we expected, and far less than rumour has put about within the last few days. Two companies will be at once taken off each battalion of infantry at home or returning home, and fifty battalions will be thus affected. A hundred Captains will be placed on half-pay, but we understand that this number will be somewhat lessened by the granting of a certain number of unattached majorities and Lieutenant-colonels to senior officers, whose places will be filled by the superfluous captains, the sum realised being carried to the reserve fund, out of which it can be again taken to diminish the half-pay list. The subalterns will remain in their regiments as supernumeraries until absorbed. We need scarcely say that all this will have a most prejudicial effect upon promotion, and the young gentlemen thinking of direct commissions in the infantry will have to wait a considerable time. The cavalry, we believe, will escape reduction altogether, and even the 66th battalions are not likely to be touched for the present.—*Army and Navy Gazette.*

STRIKE OF ONE THOUSAND POTTERS AT BRAMPTON, NEAR CHESTERFIELD.—On Monday the whole of the potters employed at the Brampton Pottery, near Chesterfield, turned out on strike, thus closing all the works. The dispute arose as follows:—The men demanded some time back an increase in their wages for the manufacture of certain articles in the trade. The masters, at a meeting last week, decided to increase the wages for pots one penny per score, but the men refuse to accept this unless a certain class of earthenware called "twelves" was included in the wage list for smaller pots, which is higher than that for large sizes. This alteration would make a difference of 4d. per score in favour of the men, and, consequently, greatly increase the expenses of the masters. The masters refused to make the concession, and a strike has been made by the men with the view to compel the masters to come to their terms. Trade just now is remarkably good, and the men have taken advantage of it. Brampton is celebrated for the manufacture of glazed earthenware, the Brampton clay being the only clay that will take the well-known "salt glaze," which is the characteristic of brown earthenware.

THE METROPOLITAN POLICE AND THE HOUSELESS POOR.

IN January, 1864, the Poor-Law Board issued a circular recommending the guardians in the metropolitan districts to secure the services of the police force, which the Commissioner of Metropolitan Police was willing to render available for the purpose. The following letter is now published as showing that the result of the adoption of this system in the Poplar union confirms the opinion of the Board as to its expediency:—

Poplar Union, High-street, Poplar, Jan. 4.

Sir,—As the police have now been appointed assistant relieving officers for upwards of one month, I am sure you will be pleased to receive a return of the numbers of vagrants admitted before the employment of the police and afterwards. I have therefore prepared a return of those persons for the months of November and December last. The police arrangements commenced on Dec. 1, 1865. It is certain we have got rid of a great many of the idle young men and lads whom we used to have, as the police are well acquainted with those who are constantly loitering about the streets, and such persons will not apply to the police. One instance was communicated to me by Inspector Bear of a lad whom he knew as living with his parents in Poplar, who used occasionally to present himself at the ward late at night; but on his so doing while the police were acting he was taken to his father's home by a constable, and now, finding the ward not allowed to him, has not been since seen idling about. So far, no harm has happened to that boy. I have no doubt many similar cases could be found. I feel sure that if the whole of the metropolitan unions could be induced to employ the police they would be well satisfied with the result, and the whole subject would be better managed.

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) JAS. R. COLLINS.

H. B. Farnall, Esq., C.B., Poor-Law Inspector.

Return of houseless poor admitted to the Poplar union during the month of November, 1865, before the police were employed as assistant relieving officers, and during the month of December, 1865, after they were so employed:—November, 1865.—Number of men admitted, 1251; women, 434; children, 136; ages of men—under twenty-five, 515; above twenty-five, 736; occupation as given, labourers, 1180; others, 71; whether regular way-farers or not—three fourths not; number of cases of tearing up clothing, 28 convicted. December, 1865.—Number of men admitted, 476; women, 84; children, 20; ages of men under twenty-five, 148; above twenty-five, 328; occupation as given, labourers, 440; others, 36; whether regular way-farers or not—yes; number of cases of tearing up clothing, 1 convicted.

N.B. It will be seen from the above that there is a decrease of houseless poor relieved in the month of December, as compared with the number relieved in the preceding month, of 1241 persons, or 88.1 per cent.

H. B. F.

It is further proposed to employ the police in the duties of inspection of the casual wards. Mr. Villiers writes to Sir Richard Mayne:—

Poor-Law Board, Whitehall, Jan. 18.

Sir,—I beg to inform you that the Poor-Law Board have had under their consideration the provision contained in section 2 of the Metropolitan Houseless Poor Act (26 Vic., c. 34), which directs that—"The wards and other places of reception provided according to the said Act, to be inspected not less than once in every four months, between the hours of six o'clock in the evening and eight in the morning in the months between October and March inclusive, and between the hours of eight o'clock in the evening and eight in the morning in the months between April and September inclusive; and the result of such inspections shall be reported to the Poor-Law Board, who may at any time revoke and renew the certificate granted, or to be granted, under the first section of the Act." The board are of opinion that the required inspection of the wards and places referred to would be most satisfactorily conducted by the officers of police, and they request to be informed whether you would be willing to assent to those officers being appointed to undertake the duty. The number of the wards within the district of the metropolitan police is thirty-nine.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

To Sir Richard Mayne, K.C.B., &c. C. P. VILLIERS.

Sir Richard Mayne has replied, stating that he agrees to the duty being undertaken by the police, and shall be ready to make arrangements and give the directions that may be necessary.

THE IRISH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cashel has just addressed a letter to one of the Roman Catholic members of Parliament, in which, referring to the suggested endowment of his Church, he affirms his determination to support the voluntary system and that alone. He would, he says, oppose any measure that would make the Roman Catholic bishops and priests in Ireland stipendiaries of the State in any degree whatever. Dr. Leahy states his belief that by this declaration he expresses the sentiments of the bishops and priests of his Church in Ireland.

A DEAD LOCK IN THE LORD CHANCELLOR'S COURT.—The almost interminable case of "McIntosh v. the Great Western Railway Company" is in the paper of Lord Cranworth for argument. Vice-Chancellor Stuart once stated that 500 speeches had been made in it; and as the Lords Justices have by a decision of theirs opened the whole question *de novo*, there appears to be no reason why as many days as there are in the year should not once more be occupied by this case. The other morning the Lord Chancellor stated that it would in all probability be "part heard" at the end of the present term, and he should only after that time be able to devote two days a week to it, as he would be sitting in the House of Lords. Other suitors, therefore, have little chance of getting their causes on prior to the long vacation before his Lordship; and the Lords Justices' Court is the only appellate tribunal to which they can resort.

INTERCHANGE OF COURTESIES BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND ITALY.—The Trieste journals relate an incident not without interest, which has just occurred in the neighbouring small Austrian port of Pola:—Three Italian ships of war, two frigates and a corvette, had put in there from stress of weather, and advanced up to the line of batteries without any hindrance on the part of the Austrian authorities; the next day the Italian Admiral sent word that he was willing to salute the flag if the compliment would be returned. The commander at Pola immediately sent a telegraphic despatch to Vienna, and received a reply ordering him to answer the salute. Consequently the Italian ships on leaving for Ancona fired twenty-one guns, to which one of the forts replied shot for shot. A pleasure excursion from Venice to Milan has also been organised for the last few days of the carnival, by permission of the Venetian authorities.

THE ALLEGED WOMAN-FLOGGING IN JAMAICA.—Lewis Bowerbank, M.D., F.R.C.P. Edin., Custos Rotulorum of Kingston, Jamaica, who has just arrived in this country, writes as follows to a contemporary in reference to the allegation that "300 women were flogged" during the suppression of the late outbreak in St. Thomas-in-the-East:—"There is no doubt that much harm has been done by many idle and false statements made and published by persons whose wish, no doubt, in many instances, was father to the statement. At the risk of being considered tedious, I will mention a few. Thus, I have heard it stated that Colonel Nelson (than whom, I believe, a better and more honourable officer does not live) had sanctioned the flogging of 300 women. This, I proclaim, is a downright falsehood. Only on one occasion did a court-martial in Brigadier Nelson's district sentence a woman to be flogged. On being sent to him for approval and confirmation, he would not sanction it, and set the prisoner free. He also sent for the president of the court-martial and told him never again to sentence a woman to be flogged. While on this subject I may mention that it reached the Governor's ear that a magistrate for the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East had ordered a woman or some women to be flogged. His Excellency forthwith superseded this gentleman as a justice of the peace. Again, I find it stated in one paper, under the head of 'Genial Warning,' that a daughter of Roach, of Kingston, was sent up to camp and was there flogged on her bare person, before the soldiers. This is thoroughly false. I hesitate not to say that no female was sent up to camp, and no female was flogged there."

FRIGHTFUL COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday last an explosion of fire-damp took place in the High Brook Colliery, about a mile from the high road from Wigan to Ashton, by which thirty persons were killed. In the morning of the day in question fifty men descended, as usual, to their work between five and six o'clock, when the mine was reported free of gas. There was no indication of danger until twelve o'clock, when the explosion took place. The persons employed in other parts of the mine rushed towards the spot, but it was found that no arch over the air-course had been blown down and that access to it had been cut off. Assistance from neighbouring collieries was soon obtained, but it was not possible to reach the scene of the accident for more than two hours. Between two and three o'clock several dead bodies were found, supposed to be those of drawers who had brought tubs of coal from the workings, but the bodies were so much disfigured that they could not be identified. At last the mine was sufficiently ventilated to enable the searchers to reach the place where the men had been at work, and it was found that there had been a fearful destruction of life. At ten o'clock thirty dead bodies had been removed to the pit-eye. They were raised at eleven o'clock to the bank, where fires had been lighted, round which the relatives of the deceased had collected in crowds. Their grief and anxiety to see the bodies of their lost friends need not be described. It was not, however, considered desirable to examine the bodies at once, and they were removed, under the care of the police, to the fitting-shop at the central part of the works, where preparations were made for their identification in the morning. The scene on Wednesday was a very painful one. The bodies were placed on a platform, fitted up in a room, to which the relatives, who sobbed and cried most bitterly, were only admitted in small groups. The bodies of the greater number were identified and claimed by relatives.

